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INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES,  
NEW YORK AREA—PART IV

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HEARINGS  
BEFORE THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
EIGHTY-FOURTH CONGRESS  
FIRST SESSION

---

MAY 5 AND 6, 1955

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Printed for the use of the Committee on Un-American Activities

INCLUDING INDEX



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COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES

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## CONTENTS

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	Page
May 5-6, 1955:	
Testimony of Mildred Blauvelt-----	911
Index-----	i
(Testimony of Mildred Blauvelt, heard on May 3-4, 1955, is printed in Part III of this series.)	



## PUBLIC LAW 601, 79TH CONGRESS

The legislation under which the House Committee on Un-American Activities operates is Public Law 601, 79th Congress [1946], chapter 753, 2d session, which provides:

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, \* \* \**

### PART 2—RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

#### RULE X

##### SEC. 121. STANDING COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

17. Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

#### RULE XI

##### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEE

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) (1) Committee on Un-American Activities.

(A) Un-American activities.

(2) The Committee on Un-American Activities, as a whole or by subcommittee, is authorized to make from time to time investigations of (i) the extent, character, and objects of un-American propaganda activities in the United States, (ii) if the diffusion within the United States of subversive and un-American propaganda that is instigated from foreign countries or of a domestic origin and attacks the principle of the form of government as guaranteed by our Constitution, and (iii) all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Committee on Un-American Activities shall report to the House (or to the Clerk of the House if the House is not in session) the results of any such investigation, together with such recommendations as it deems advisable.

For the purpose of any such investigation, the Committee on Un-American Activities, or any subcommittee thereof, is authorized to sit and act at such times and places within the United States, whether or not the House is sitting, has recessed, or has adjourned, to hold such hearings, to require the attendance of such witnesses and the production of such books, papers, and documents, and to take such testimony, as it deems necessary. Subpenas may be issued under the signature of the chairman of the committee or any subcommittee, or by any member designated by any such chairman, and may be served by any person designated by any such chairman or member.

## RULES ADOPTED BY THE 84TH CONGRESS

House Resolution 5, January 5, 1955

\* \* \* \* \*

### RULE X

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

1. There shall be elected by the House, at the commencement of each Congress, the following standing committees:

\* \* \* \* \*

(q) Committee on Un-American Activities, to consist of nine members.

\* \* \* \* \*

### RULE XI

#### POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMITTEES

\* \* \* \* \*

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(a) Un-American Activities.

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## INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES, NEW YORK AREA—PART IV

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THURSDAY, MAY 5, 1955

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Washington, D. C.*

PUBLIC HEARING

A subcommittee met, pursuant to recess, at 10 a. m. in the caucus room, Old House Office Building, Hon. Morgan M. Moulder (chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder and Harold H. Velde.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, counsel, and George C. Williams, investigator.

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed, Mr. Tavenner.

### TESTIMONY OF MRS. MILDRED BLAUVELT—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, at the close of yesterday's session, you were telling us of your experience in the Communist Party with respect to fund drives. You have described in some detail the great emphasis that was placed upon rank and file members of the Communist Party making substantial contributions to the work of the party. You have described large quotas that were given to the various sections and clubs of the Communist Party. Will you now continue with your experience in the fund drives.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. At the beginning of August 1950 the party started another emergency fund drive and I met with Al Neptune, the educational director of the Boro Hall section August 17, 1950, at which time he stated to me that the main task confronting the clubs was to raise as much money as possible for the party's current fund drive by Sunday evening, August 20.

He stressed the need for the clubs to complete the fund drive as promptly as possible, explaining that the money was needed on section, county, and national levels.

He said the Boro Hall section had been forced to give up headquarters at 363 Fulton Street, the Kings County staff had been reduced by two-thirds and full-time party workers had been going without pay, and that the national committee needed funds to carry on the fight for the defense of the party leaders.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you consider that that difficulty in making payment of the salaries to the Communist Party officials was due to the

spending of Communist Party funds for the defense of persons being tried under the Smith Act?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; that was my understanding, that most funds were being diverted for that purpose. Again on August 22, 1950, Al Neptune, explained the need for funds on a national scale, saying that the defense of the party's leadership had practically exhausted all funds and it was necessary to get more money to carry on the fight to appeal the case. He also said that the Daily Worker was operating in the red and all orders for the paper would have to be made in advance as credit could no longer be extended.

The fund drive for 1951 began officially on March 15, and Ruth Perloff, the section coordinator of the Jay-Smith Clubs Nos. 1 and 2 stated that the Boro Hall section had been given a quota of \$7,000 and the Jay-Smith Clubs \$750. She stated that every comrade was being asked to contribute a week's salary, plus a second week's salary if possible, and the comrades must be asked to make personal sacrifices for the sake of helping the Daily Worker and the party, which was in dire need of money to carry on its activities in the promotion of socialism and the defense of its leaders.

She gave us a further report on April 11, 1951, at which time she stated that she had attended a meeting of county leaders on April 9, at 3200 Coney Island Avenue, where it had been decided that in view of the imminence of the Communist Party having to register under the McCarran Act and its being considered an illegal organization, steps must be taken to complete 100 percent of the fund drive by the coming weekend, while it was still possible for the money to go through the channels from the membership through the section and county committees to the State and national committees without interference.

However, 100 percent of this fund drive was not met at that time and a further report was made to the club on May 8, 1951, by Francis Scoville, organizer of the Boro Hall section, who announced that Kings County had \$39,000 more to go to complete its quota of \$100,000, and the sections approximately \$2,000 each. This was a very slow-moving fund drive. It was difficult at this time to get the members to fulfill their pledges. Money was not coming in.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you assign any reason for that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir. Because aside from the annual fund drives which had been held for the past couple of years there had been any number of emergency fund drives indicated in the testimony I have given. And the comrades were just being bled. They just didn't have the resources, especially in my particular area, and I say that that would be indicative of most of the areas in Brooklyn at least at that time, because the fund drive was running very slowly in that entire area.

Of course we were given pep talks frequently on this particular fund drive and once again on May 24, 1951, at a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club No. 1, Charles Marshall, who was on the section staff, stated that although the comrades might have to make contributions to other mass organizations, the party came first, because it was the basis for those mass organizations and that without the party they would not have come into existence, nor would they be able to function.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the course of your testimony you have emphasized the insistence that was being placed upon organizing of Com-



munist Party groups within industry. Will you tell us now, please, what efforts the Communist Party made to increase its activities within industry?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Probably by way of explanation I should say that during the time of the Communist Political Association which covered the latter period of the war, the party was operating on a community club basis. Most of the industrial units had been dissolved, and after the war the party did attempt to reconstitute the industrial work of the party and did attempt to get the members back into industrial branches. However, this activity was not proceeding too well, and finally in the beginning of 1949 some very concrete action was being taken and this action was reported on at a meeting of the Boro Hall section which was held on March 1, 1949. At this meeting Sam Coleman of the party's State educational committee was supposed to have addressed the meeting on the reorganization and the reorientation of the party on the basis of industrial units, but inasmuch as he had failed to appear, Bea Sacks, who was a member of the county committee as well as being organizer of the Boro Hall section, spoke in his place. She announced that the party had decided to reorganize on an industrial basis instead of the present community setup.

She said that during the war under the influence of Browder, the party had dissolved its industrial units and had gone in for community work, and although after the war it had attempted to reestablish some of its industrial units, it had become apparent that no progress had been made; that community work remained the bulk of the party's activity, and it was therefore necessary to have a complete reorganization along industrial lines. This, she explained, called for the comrades to get into basic industries where they could do party work from within rather than from outside, and that officeworkers also would be asked to do industrial work.

With this general explanation she then informed the members of how the Boro Hall section would be affected in the party reorganization. She began by speaking of the longshoremen's strike which had taken place a few months previously, admitting that it had been the Communists who had given it its impetus, and in the present reorganization, she said it had been decided to make party activity among the longshoremen one of the key concentrations in Brooklyn. To this end the Waterfront, Bay Ridge, Boro Hall, Fort Greene, and 12th assembly district sections of the Brooklyn party were being combined into one regional section, with longshore work its major activity under the direction of a regional director, Ben Davis, who had formerly conducted the Brooklyn party's election campaigns.

She further announced that the Boro Hall and Fort Greene sections would be consolidated whereby Boro Hall section would be augmented by 60 members of the Fort Greene section, and Bob Ehrlich of the Fort Greene section would be the organizational secretary of the enlarged Boro Hall section.

Mr. TAVENNER. Is the Ben Davis you are mentioning the Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., who was elected to the council of the city of New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; this is an entirely different person.

Bea Sacks also stated that the Boro Hall section would devote itself to four major concentrations: namely, longshore activity on the

docks, industrial activity at such factories as the Gem Razor Blade Co. and Mergenthalers, activity among the Puerto Rican residents of the section, and activity among the Negroes.

The entire membership would be interviewed to see in which activity they should be placed. Special emphasis was to be placed on placing comrades in the longshore units, and all clubs were to be called upon to give their assistance to this particular unit, in addition to which the activity of all members would be diverted to whichever concentration was most in need of help. She announced that the party's recruiting drive was now beginning and it was imperative to recruit new members from among the longshoremen so that the longshore unit could be established and its activity started. There was some discussion at this meeting and I don't know whether you want me to go into any of the detail of it.

Mr. TAVENNER. I think not.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The party did hold an all-day conference at the Hotel Diplomat on industrial concentration on March 5, 1949, and credentials were given to one comrade from each club to attend as the club's delegate, and from my particular club Harry Shapiro was the delegate to this conference inasmuch as he was also a member of the section staff. In connection with this particular activity on the part of the Jay-Smith Club, we were told that we had to become active around some industrial plant in the neighborhood and we therefore started to make a survey of what factories were in our particular neighborhood at which we could sell the Daily Worker and distribute leaflets on the outside.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, I ask you at this time to identify the membership of the Jay-Smith Club of the Communist Party, and to state the period of your membership?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was a member of the Jay-Smith Club from the end of June 1947 to the time of my expulsion.

Mr. TAVENNER. Of course we expect you to follow the same criterion given before in naming only those persons known to you to be members of the Communist Party.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir. [Reading:]

There was Mary Ella Barnes, 555 Warren Street. Some of the group meetings of the club were held in her home.

Dorothy Bregman, 193 Clinton Avenue. Dorothy Bregman had been assigned to be the leader of the group called the American Youth for Democracy, which was operating in our particular vicinity. She stated that she worked in a nursery school of the department of welfare. She was at many meetings of the club.

Stanley Bregman, 193 Clinton Avenue. He also attended many meetings of the club.

Ann Bryant, 426 Baltic Street in the Gowanus housing project. She was at one time treasurer of the club and did undergo deportation proceedings and was deported in 1954 to Canada.

Walter Bryant, 426 Baltic Street in the Gowanus housing project, was literature director of the Jay-Smith Club for a time.

John Burke, 323 Pearl Street; in 1948 he stated that he had been in the party for 24 years, that he had been secretary of the International Labor Defense, had made a national tour for it, and that he had once been a member of the national review commission of the party.

Violet Burke, 323 Pearl Street. She had been treasurer of the Jay-Smith Club for a while.

Ethel Chilton, 594 Clinton Street. She joined the party in the latter part of 1949 and then in the latter part of 1950 moved to Emporium, Pa.



George Chilton who was also known as Skippy, 594 Clinton Street. He was a group captain in the club, stated that he was a member of the Young Progressives of America. He also stated he was a chemist by profession and in the latter part of 1950 moved to Emporium, Pa., to work for the Sylvania Co.

Bernie Chudnously, 335 State Street. He had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club, stating that he had formerly worked in the Crown Heights and Sheepshead Bay sections of the party.

Gus Contogenis, also known as Contes, 570 Baltic Street. He attended some of the meetings of the club. He was one of the Greek comrades of the club.

Fred Dawn, 388 Pacific Street. He moved to 268 Dean Street and finally to 111 South Third Street. He had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club from Corona, Queens. He was literature director of the club for a while and also its educational director for a while. When he moved to 111 South Third Street, which was in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, there was some doubt about his receiving a transfer. They thought probably the circumstances of his entering the party were suspicious and were going to investigate but I do not know what happened. He said he was a member of the laundry workers union.

Jo Ann Dawn, 388 Pacific Street, moved to 268 Dean Street, then to 111 South Third Street, joined the party in April 1949 and attended meetings and the same was true with her as Fred Dawn.

Bud Dell said he was also known as Budnoff, which is a phonetic spelling. He lived at 183 Congress Street. He stated that he had been a psychologist in the Army.

He was expelled from the party in March 1950 and at that time was supposed to be moving to Boston and arrangements were made to have the party in Boston notified so that they would not register him in the party in that area.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know the reason for his expulsion?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. He was expelled—he had first been dropped because of misuse of funds or money which had been placed in his hands by some of the comrades. And he was dropped with the understanding that if he proved himself loyal to the party he could at some future time ask to be reconsidered for reregistration. However, a case did come up in which he was charged with white chauvinism and it was on the charge of white chauvinism that the procedure to expel him was conducted. [Reading:]

Christine Dell, wife of Bud Dell, 183 Congress Street. She was transferred to an industrial unit called branch 2-C of the white collar workers of New York County. She also was involved in the charges of white chauvinism and expelled along with Bud Dell.

Mr. TAVENNER. Does that mean she was an employee of the city of New York?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir. She was simply a member of another unit in the party. This would be called one of the industrial units. [Reading:]

Irving Feuer, 238 Bond Street, Gowanus housing project. He had been transferred from the Claremont Club in the Tremont section of the Bronx in December 1949.

He was literature and press director of the Jay-Smith Club for a time, one of its group captains, and was made the organizer of the Jay-Smith Club No. 1 also for a while. He stated that he had attended conventions in 1936 and 1938, which had been held by the American Youth Congress, that he had been a member of the Young Communist League, American Youth for Democracy, Young Pioneers and the International Workers Order.

He was to have been active in the Gowanus housing tenants' council. He said he went into the Communist Party adult group in 1945 upon his discharge from the Army. He worked for the Israeli Steamship Co. as a clerk and it was in his apartment that I had my interrogation and expulsion.

Nettie Feuer, 238 Bond Street in the Gowanus housing project. She also had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club December 1949 from the Claremont Club in the Bronx. She was cochairman of the Gowanus tenants' council. She also stated that she had been a member of the Young Pioneers, YCL, AYD, and IWO, and she had joined the Communist Party in 1944.

Jerry Fields, 423 Baltic Street in the Gowanus housing project. He was a veteran receiving monthly checks from the Veterans' Administration and at one time he told me that he was planning on moving to New Jersey about September 1951.

He was a member of the Social Science McKelvey White Group of Brooklyn College; transferred from this group to the Jay-Smith Club.

Laura Fields, 423 Baltic Street, Gowanus housing project, transferred from the youth group of the party to the Jay-Smith Club. She was recording secretary of the Gowanus housing council.

Dr. Trygve Forland, 5718 Fort Hamilton Parkway. He was press director of the Jay-Smith Club and attended Long Island College Hospital. He was married in July of 1948 and went to California and just recently I happened to see his name listed in the Brooklyn Telephone Directory at the same address, 5718 Fort Hamilton Parkway, which may indicate he is back in the city.

Paulette Frishkoff, 142 Henry Street: At the time when some of the members were taken out of the Jay-Smith Club to form a new unit, which was to do Italian concentration work, she became its treasurer. She moved to California in 1949.

George Georgia: He was given membership card No. 14096 for 1948. He did attend a meeting at which he paid me dues.

Etta Graham, 479 Adelphi Street: She joined the party in August 1948. She did attend meetings.

Myra Greenberg lived on Dean Street between Hoyt and Bond, near the corner of Bond Street. She stated she was attending Jefferson School in 1951 and that she was also attending New York University. She was a member of the party's youth division and had been placed in the Jay-Smith Club for the purpose of receiving adult guidance and her assignment by the party was to be active in the Labor Youth League and also in the student group at NYU.

Nils Gustafson, 386 Bergen Street: He was given membership card No. 14095 for 1948.

Georgia Lee Hall, 764 Greene Avenue: She was recruited on May 4, 1948, by Charles Marshall and given membership card No. 14155 for 1948. She was a member of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and was later transferred to a club in the neighborhood in which she lived.

Caroline Hausman, 68 Hanson Place: She was transferred to the Jay-Smith Club November 1949. She stated she was kindergarten teacher for the Department of Welfare, that she had joined the Young Communist League in 1939 and that she became a naturalized citizen in 1947.

She also stated she was a member of the local 555 of the teachers' union.

Mr. TAVENNER. You say she was employed as a kindergarten teacher in the department of welfare?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether she was so employed in 1949?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes; at the time that I knew her she was.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether she is still employed by the welfare department?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I do not, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have knowledge one way or the other?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I have no knowledge one way or the other.

Mr. MOULDER. What department of welfare?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In New York City. [Reading:]

Morris Highliger, 264 Bergen Street: He stated that he had come from the Virgin Islands in 1905, and that he had joined the Communist Party in 1947, having been recruited by Harry Shapiro. He received membership card No. 14314 for 1948.

Fred Holmstrom, 75 St. Marks Avenue: He stated that he had come from Sweden about 1905; that he had done party work around 1934 to 1940, canvassing with the Daily Worker in the Bay Ridge area. He stated that he had worked for the party on the waterfront in the early 1930's and was a member of the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born; member of the American Labor Party, Bay Ridge branch; member of the Furniture Workers Union, Local 140, and worked for Kollmorgen Optical Co., 2 Franklin Avenue, Brooklyn.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you gain any information as to the date of his naturalization?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I did not. [Reading:]

Joseph Jenkins, 330 Bergen Street: He attended meetings.

Irving Katz was the owner of a delicatessen at 66 Fourth Avenue and was one of the members from whom substantial contributions were received for fund drives. He was transferred to Kings Highway section where he had his residence around June 1948. It was at this particular time that he stated that he had been a member of the Communist Party for 11 years.

Claire Kessler, 313½ State Street: She had been transferred to Jay-Smith Club from the lower West Side section in Manhattan in error. She was on the rolls of the club for a while but was retransferred to a professional group in June of 1949. She stated she was a member of the musicians union but not of local 802, which was one of the famous locals of the musicians union. She gave piano lessons to adults on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at her home.

Mr. TAVENNER. Can you give any further identification of the professional group of the Communist Party to which she was transferred?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I cannot. [Reading:]

Caryll Lasky, 39 Sidney Place: She was financial secretary of the Boro Hall section, acting membership director for a while, and in the latter part of 1950 became organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section. She was a very active member in the party.

Bernice Landau, 275 Smith Street: She was registered into the party for 1949 at a meeting held on November 23, 1948. She worked for a nursery school, she said, in the department of welfare in the vicinity of Knickerbocker Village and was a member of the United Public Workers Union. As a matter of fact, Bernice Landau was not too active within the Jay-Smith Club itself, preferring to work in what she called an industrial unit and I think for that reason was eventually transferred from the club.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether she is still employed by the department of welfare?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No; I do not. [Reading:]

Sara Rubinsky Lewis, 568 Vanderbilt Avenue: She was transferred to the Jay-Smith Club from Hinsdale Club of the 24th A. D., her transfer card being signed by L. Davis for the Hinsdale Club and which designated her membership card number to be 21998 for 1948. She was later transferred to the Flatbush section at her own request.

Betty Luschinsky: She used the party name Michaels. She lived at 437 Pacific Street. Betty Luschinsky is rather an interesting case so far as our particular club was concerned, and it might be of interest to you to know something about it. She was a member of the Parent Teachers Association in public school 47 and in December of 1949 at the time—

Mr. TAVENNER. Excuse me. Did you say she was a member or did she hold any official position in the PTA?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. She was executive secretary, I think she told me.

She did not wish to reregister into the party for 1950 stating she did not feel very close to the party. She wasn't sure whether or not she was undergoing an ideological change in her political thinking and therefore wanted to drop from the party for about a year to give herself time to think this matter over, at the end of which she would decide whether she wished to remain in the party or not.

She did say that she was an executive member of the Parent Teacher Association, that she did not want to be known in the neighborhood as a Communist and had become inactive in the party, even refusing to do American Labor Party work during the last election campaign. All of this was reported to the staff of the Boro Hall section and after due consideration it was decided that she must be kept

in the party because she was a member of the PTA and it was only through her contact with the party that she would be able to function correctly as a Communist in the PTA.

Bea Sacks, the organizer of the Boro Hall section, went to see her regarding her refusal to reregister and although she had still refused, Bea Sacks was sure she would be able to convince Betty to stay in the party. Betty however did continue to refuse to reregister but in spite of that fact was retained on the rolls of the Jay-Smith Club as a member of the party upon orders of the section inasmuch as the section felt that every effort must be made to keep her in the party because she was a member of the PTA and represented the party's contact with what was considered a mass organization in the community.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether she performed any service of any character for the Communist Party after the time that you have mentioned?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I had to see her myself when I visited her on August 24, 1950, and at that time she again stated she hadn't changed her mind about remaining in the party since her refusal to register last year. She said she wasn't out of sympathy with it, still believed in its principles, even had a subscription to the Sunday Worker and kept up with her reading but she still didn't want to be a member of the party because she didn't want to be active in it and didn't want to be forced or have to force herself to party activity. But she said she was secretary of the PTA and a member of the American Labor Party and although she refused to register as a member of the Communist Party if there was anything she could do to be of service to the party without committing herself as a Communist, she would try to help out. She gave me a small contribution to the fund drive being conducted at that time.

I don't know what happened to Betty Luschinsky because at the time of my expulsion I think she was in process of moving from the section and I lost contact with the case at that time. [Reading:]

Other members were Geneva Mack, 581 Warren Street, who paid dues to the party but did not attend meetings because of illness.

Laverne Mack, 581 Warren Street, recruited by Selma Shapiro in March 1949.

Audrey Mailman, 140 Dean Street, transferred to the Jay-Smith Club from the Riverdale section of the Bronx Communist Party and at the time of her transfer to the Jay-Smith Club was named educational director of the club.

She stated that she was attending, or had attended, rather, the Marxist institute of the Jefferson School and that she belonged to the American Students Union in 1938, where she had been membership secretary.

She also had been a member of the Young Communist League. She was a member of the American Labor Party, tenants council, United Office and Professional Workers of America.

In July of 1950 she was transferred to the Longshore Club inasmuch as that club needed forces to help out in its work.

Harold Mailman, 140 Dean Street. He also was transferred to the Jay-Smith Club from the Riverdale section of the Bronx Communist Party. He had been an organizer for the American Labor Party, stated he had been a paid organizer for the Progressive Party, had been in charge of tickets for the rally that had been conducted by the American Labor Party at Yankee Stadium during the Wallace campaign, that he had gone to Wilkes-Barre, Pa., for organizational work and fund raising in connection with the Progressive Party.

He also was transferred to the Longshore Club in July 1950 because that club needed forces.

Charles Marshall, 343 Bergen Street. Joined the Communist Party in 1947. He became literature director of the Jay-Smith Club, then was made its membership director, then its organizer, and held the position of group captain at various times.



He was released for 6 weeks in 1949 from all party activities to attend the county training class. He was made a member of the section staff as its press director and upon reorganization of the party in the latter part of 1950, became area director of the La Pasionaria Club and Unit 338, the industrial unit of the food workers.

Marjorie Marshall, 343 Bergen Street. She was made club organizer of Jay-Smith Club No. 2 when the club was broken into 2 groups.

Anna Maslowski, 224 Dean Street. She said she had been active in Communist Party work in Hoboken in 1939 where she had lived with her first husband, and that she had been a member of the Communist Party in Germany.

Seenie McCantes, marriage name was Brace, 553 Warren Street. She was one of the comrades in whose home we held group meetings.

Wallace McNab, 92 Atlantic Avenue. He joined the Communist Party in June 1948, he was a member of the local 85, Building Workers Union, and stated he was an elevator operator.

Jimmie Monroe, 551 Warren Street. He was not too active a member.

Minnie Monroe, 551 Warren Street. Minnie Monroe was a delegate from the Jay-Smith Club to many Communist Party and Communist Party front delegations which were conducted at the time that I was a member of the club.

Mary Moore, 161 Third Avenue; and—

Ira Moore, 161 Third Avenue. Some meetings were held in their home and they did attend meetings of the party.

John Mougianis, 274 Dean Street. He was president of his Greek chapter of the IWO, International Workers Order. He was a member of the Food Workers Union of the A. F. of L. He bought a home in Jamaica, Long Island, and moved there about June 1951.

Leona Mougianis, 274 Dean Street. She naturally moved to Jamaica, Long Island, also.

Abe Osheroff; he had been former organizer of the Brownsville section, and at the time that I became a member of the Jay-Smith Club was the organizer of the Boro Hall section. He had been made a member of the Jay-Smith Club. He was transferred to the Boro Park section in around June 1948, I believe, and later became organizer of the Bay Ridge and Boro Park sections, and also became a member of the county committee. He also was a member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

Ruth Perloff; she had lived at 323 Pearl Street when I first knew her and then moved to 355 Pacific Street. She had once been the organizer for the Jay-Smith Club. She acted at one time as the section treasurer of the Boro Hall section and became a member of the section committee.

She was educational director of Jay-Smith Club No. 1 for a while, and upon reorganization of the party in the latter part of 1950 became section coordinator of the Jay-Smith Clubs Nos. 1 and 2. She stated that she had joined the party in 1937, had been a member of the Christian Youth Organization, the American Youth Congress, and had done party work in Illinois, Ohio, and Pennsylvania, and had worked in the party bookshop in Ohio. For a while she was a member of the Helen Horton Club in 1950, but just a brief period.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you any way of identifying the bookshop in Ohio?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, I have not. [Reading:]

George Polimeris, 335 Pearl Street. He attended some of the meetings of the Jay-Smith Club at which I was present.

Tony Poulos, 355 Pacific Street. He was press director and literature director of the Jay-Smith Club No. 2 and was employed at the Long Island College Hospital.

Sophie Poulos, 355 Pacific Street. She was also known as Steiner. She conducted a mimeographing business. It was called at one time the Steinmil Letter Shop, 530 West 136 Street, New York City. Then she moved and had the Steinmil Mimeograph Co. at 343 West 164 Street.

She was press director of the Jay-Smith Club and was membership director for a very long period of time of the Jay-Smith Club. She became the adviser and director of the local branch of the American Youth for Democracy which was operating in the area of the Jay-Smith club.

She was also a group captain, and membership director and financial secretary for Jay-Smith Club No. 2.

Murray Roman. His true name was Morris Romanofsky, though he always was known as Murray Roman.

He lived at 215 Bergen Street, but later moved to 149 Lenox Road. He had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club in November 1947. He stated that he was assigned by the county committee of the Brooklyn Party to the American Labor Party and that he was publicity director for the Kings County ALP, that he worked for local 19 of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, and that in 1949 he had been in the Communist Party for 17 years. He had been an MP while in the Service.

Nettie Roman, also known as Romanofsky. She also lived at 215 Bergen Street and later moved to 149 Lenox Road. She stated that she had conducted a section training class, had been instructor of classes held in her own home, had been educational director in the Red Hook section, and that she had been city press director of Hartford during the war, that she had done educational work for the Waterfront branch and had done party work in the Brighton Beach and Coney Island sections, that she had helped organize the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America in a factory in Hartford where she had been working during the war.

Nellie Rouse, 343 Bergen Street.

Eleanor Schor, maiden name was Woolman. She lived at 42 Livingston Street and subsequently moved to 144 Willow Street. At one time she was assigned to work in the American Labor Party in the Fort Greene housing project. She was the organizer of the Jay-Smith Club when I became a member of it and from there became organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section.

Dr. Gerald Schor, 42 Livingston Street, subsequently 144 Willow Street. He stated he had been a member of the Young Communist League. He became a doctor of medicine in June of 1948 after studying at the Long Island College Hospital, and around that period was transferred to a professional group inasmuch as he had become a full-fledged doctor. He was interning at the Jewish Hospital in 1951.

Mr. TAVENNER. Are you able to identify the professional group to which he was transferred?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This was in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn and I understand that some of the members of the staff of the Jewish Hospital were included in that professional group. [Reading:]

Harry Shapiro. He was known by the name of Brockman in the party; 124 Lincoln Place. He had moved to some place on Gibson Street in Far Rockaway where he was transferred to the Far Rockaway Club and then did move back to the Boro Hall section and was retransferred back to the Boro Hall section.

He acted as the organizer of the Jay-Smith Club for a while. He was a member of the section staff of the Boro Hall section and had been assigned to work with both the Plaza Club and the La Pasionaria Club, the Puerto Rican club.

Selma Shapiro, also known as Brockman in the party and also known by the name of Herbst. She lived at 124 Lincoln Place and the same procedure was true in her case of moving to Gibson Street in Far Rockaway and then moving back to the Boro Hall section, being retransferred back to that section.

She held the positions of press director, educational director, membership director, for the Jay-Smith Club at various times. She was a group captain and educational director in the Jay-Smith Club No. 2 and for a while had been assigned to work also in the La Pasionaria Club.

Blanche Siegel, 62 Hoyt Street. She moved to the Sedgewick project in the Bronx in July 1950. She stated she had done work for the national office of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, and that in 1948 she was working for local 1217 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America.

Milton Siegel, also 62 Hoyt Street, he had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club from the Bronx where he had been doing canvassing work for the party in the Hunts Point section.

He moved to the Sedgewick project in the Bronx in July 1950. At the time I knew him, he was attending New York University under the GI bill of rights. This was in the period 1948 and 1949. He stated that he had been active in the students union, Young Communists League, and American Youth for Democracy, and had gone on the delegation to the American Peace Mobilization to Chicago held in 1940.

Bertha Silas, 264 Bergen Street, given membership card No. 14284 for 1948.

Nick Silas, 274 Dean Street. He had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club from the Hill section of Pittsburgh, Pa., in September 1949. He has subsequently been deported to Poland.

Mr. VELDE. What was the reason for his being deported?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The Immigration and Naturalization Service held proceedings against him based on membership in the party and the fact that he was an alien and not naturalized. I testified in that case in Chicago in February 1954.

Mr. VELDE. Did you say he was a naturalized citizen?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. He was not a naturalized citizen and was subsequently deported to Poland. I do not know just when it was but it was some time last year. [Reading:]

John Stuart, 20 Sidney Place. He had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club in August 1948 to be its educational director and he was transferred out of the Jay-Smith Club in the latter part of 1949. He had at one time worked for New Masses. On March 31, 1953, he appeared before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and when asked about his Communist affiliations in general, and the Jay-Smith Club in particular, he claimed the fifth amendment.

Charles Toback, 39 Sidney Place. He was transferred to the Jay-Smith Club in June of 1948 upon the request of Eleanor Schor. He was transferred from the industrial unit in local 65 of the Wholesale Workers Union because his previous experience in the Bronx among Negroes fitted him for the Jay-Smith Club's needs.

Steve Tsermegas, 274 Dean Street. He was also deported to Poland last year.

Mr. VELDE. On the same grounds, Communist membership?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; I testified in his case.

Nick Silas was the case in which I testified in February 1954. [Reading:]

Eileen Wilson used the party name of Bryant. She lived at 294 Clinton Street. She had been recruited into the party by Dr. Trygve Forland. It was around March 1948. Dr. Schor added his recommendation to that of Dr. Forland. She was given membership card No. 14266 for 1948. She worked at the Long Island College Hospital as research assistant and bacteriologist. She was made the organizer of the Jay-Smith Club No. 1 for a certain period of time; was also one of its group captains. She moved to Santa Barbara, Calif., about June 1950.

Dr. William Wilson used the party name Bryant, 294 Clinton Street. He had been recruited by Dr. Forland and the same procedure as I mentioned for Eileen Wilson.

Mr. TAVENNER. When you say Dr. Wilson used the name Bryant, do you mean that was a Communist Party name he used?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. When these two people, Eileen Wilson and Bill Wilson were first recruited into the party, I had to handle their membership applications and they used the name of Bryant on that, and they were very commonly referred to as just Eileen Bryant and Bill Bryant.

However, it was subsequently learned that their true name was Wilson and I think we often referred to them as the Wilsons. Schor, Wilson and Forland were all medical students at the same time in the Long Island College Hospital, which was the reason for the recruitment of Forland and Wilson into the party at this particular time.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did all three of these doctors use party names different from their own names?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In the case of Schor he was, when I first came into the Jay-Smith Club, commonly referred to as Woolman, which was his wife's maiden name, but that was subsequently dropped and he was called Schor.

Forland at one time gave me a subscription to the Worker which he had signed in the name of Thompson, saying that was his father's name. So I don't know whether I can attribute that to being his name or not; I don't know what the circumstances were behind that. We never referred to Trygve Forland by any other name than that.

Mr. TAVENNER. But it is quite evident that in the case of each of these three doctors they were endeavoring to cover up their true identity?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, I would say so. Bill Wilson was later transferred to the medical students unit of New York University which was in the student section. I happened to be at his home on the night of November 15, 1949, when he telephoned his acceptance of internship at Santa Barbara, that acceptance to take effect in June, and he subsequently moved to Santa Barbara in June of 1950. [Reading:]

Joseph Zinghini, 126 State Street: he had been given membership card No. 14097 for 1948; he was a member of the American Labor Party. He contributed to one of the fund drives. I had to eventually put through a transfer through the Boro Hall section for him to be transferred to the Orange Street club inasmuch as he was living outside of the immediate confines of the Jay-Smith area.

Frances Zockowitz, 215 Bergen Street: I met her at a meeting of the Jay Smith club held on August 15, 1947, but she was very soon after that transferred to another club inasmuch as she had moved to Harlem.

She was, I believe, the sister of Nettie Roman, whom I mentioned previously.

Mr. MOULDER. The committee will stand in recess until 1:30.

(Whereupon, at 12 noon, the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 1:30 p. m. the same day.)

#### AFTERNOON SESSION, MAY 5, 1955

Committee members present: Representative Moulder (presiding).

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed, please.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have indicated, Mrs. Blauvelt, in the course of your testimony, that the Communist Party put great stress on its members engaging in community activities. I would like you to discuss that subject more fully and tell the committee how the Communist Party brought pressure to bear on its members to engage in Communist Party activities, and the nature of those Communist activities.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. These activities were conducted on issues which were felt would have the most appeal to the people in the communities, and directives usually would be handed down from the section to the clubs as to just what activities were to be participated in.

Now, for instance, when I was in the Parkside club, which was a club in the Flatbush section, following a section convention, a report was made to the Parkside club by Jeanette Rosenfeld on March 5, 1946. She stated that at this particular section convention, Shirley Auerbach, literature director for the section, had made a report on the activities which the section should undertake. The Communist party was to be representative of a cross-section of the community and, therefore, the Communists just become active among the working and laboring classes and the Negro and Jewish people of the community.

The county committee had suggested to the section that they conduct activity on the FEPC and this was done to a certain extent.



Also the question had been raised about establishing a third party in opposition to the two-party system and consideration of this angle was given and it was thought that the best results could be achieved through the American Labor Party.

Of course, the Communists, the comrades were told, must assume leadership in the American Labor Party and be the vanguard in initiating a movement for a third party.

At this particular time in 1946, and in the beginning of 1947, a great deal of activity was conducted to retain the OPA and, of course, there was a good deal of activity on the question of price control.

In connection with that, there had been a buyers' strike in the Flatbush section held on August 12 to 20 in 1946, and Dorothy Liff reported to the members of the Lincoln Road club her participation in that strike as the representative of the Lincoln Road club; she being the specific representative because she had been assigned the task of organizing a consumers council.

The headquarters for this particular strike activity was at 959 Flatbush Avenue, which was the headquarters of the American Labor Party, and Jerry Weltfish, who was a member of the Flatbush section of the Communist Party and who was also in the leadership of the American Labor Party, was in charge of that strike committee.

The Lincoln Road club was particularly engaged in an attempt to organize consumers councils and several of the members had been assigned to that particular task.

In addition to which Rhoda Cahn, one of the members, had been assigned to the task of trying to establish a permanent day nursery, this being one of the issues around which they felt they could rally the people.

She reported to the Lincoln Road club on January 7, 1947, that plans were taking shape for establishing a permanent organization for a day nursery and that petitions to Governor Dewey asking that child care centers be continued on a permanent basis were being circulated.

Mr. TAVENNER. You spoke of the part that the Communist Party played in the consumers strike.

Here is a throwaway sheet. Was that used in connection with that strike?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. This is a throwaway which was issued in the name of the Flatbush Clubs of the Communist Party of 848 Flatbush Avenue, and it is on the subject of price control, intended to get the people in the neighborhood to participate in a consumers strike.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 22," for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. With reference to rent control, which you have mentioned, were throwaway sheets used in that campaign also?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; they were.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you one and ask if you can identify it.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. This is a throwaway which was issued by the New York State Communist Party on the subject of rents and calling for the organization of the people against the increasing of rents, and to maintain rent ceilings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Attention is directed to coupon in lower left corner inviting inquiries from the Communist Party.

I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 23," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 23

51-255

*Unite to* \_\_\_\_\_

## SAVE RENT CEILINGS

Newspaper headlines: Rents going up . . . up . . . 10%, 15%, 30% . . . who knows how much?

The real estate boys are out to get all they can. As Herbert U. Nelson, big shot in the National Ass'n of Real Estate Boards said, "HELL, WE'RE GOING TO WIPE OUT RENT CONTROLS AND THE WHOLE DAMN BUSINESS THIS TIME." (The language is Mr. Nelson's.)

Real estate has made the biggest profits in history. Apartments have been rented 100%. Services have been cut. It's the tenants who need relief—not the big landlords! Small homeowners should receive adjustments in taxes.

Can you afford a 30% increase in rent? Especially when prices on all goods—shoes, clothing, butter, soap, textiles, furniture, automobiles, household appliances—are taking another big jump?

The Republican sweep in Congress has made Big Business very cocky. And President Truman has surrendered again by lifting price controls and indicating that RENTS MAY ALSO HAVE TO BE "ADJUSTED!"

## ORGANIZE NOW!

You didn't vote for higher rents! Everybody promised to keep ceilings on rents—before Election Day. MAKE TRUMAN AND DEWEY LIVE UP TO THEIR PROMISES!

**RENT INCREASES CAN BE STOPPED — IF THE PEOPLE ACT . . . FAST . . . AND TOGETHER!**

- Get together with the other tenants in your building. Bring pressure on President Truman TO KEEP RENT CEILINGS AS THEY ARE. Don't rely on Dewey and the State Law. It will not protect you if rent ceilings are raised. Pledge that you will not pay rent increases. If you and other tenants stick together, increases cannot be put over!
- Organize huge mass rallies and demonstrations in your community and shops. Visit your newly elected Congressmen and State Legislators. Demand that they join the fight to keep rents controlled.

**LABOR AND ALL COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS MUST WORK TOGETHER!**

### Mail This Coupon Today

New York State Communist Party  
35 East 12th St., New York 3, N. Y.

I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION.

Name .....

Address .....

City ..... Zone ..... State .....

### UNITE TO

**KEEP A ROOF OVER YOUR HEAD  
BY KEEPING CEILINGS ON RENTS!**

Issued by:

New York State Communist Party  
35 East 12th St., New York 3, N. Y.

200

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you proceed, please.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This activity on community issues was discussed at a meeting on March 11, 1947. This was a meeting of the Lincoln Road club in the home of Rhoda and Bill Cahn. Rhoda Cahn stated

she felt the community issues of rent control, school and day nurseries offered the Communists the opportunity to reach the people.

Gerald Goodman, one of the members, felt that the comrades should be made alert to the immediate issues that arose from day to day such as the present demand of the teachers and the administration's proposed loans to Greece and Turkey, and that the members be directed to send telegrams and letters on these issues, and that once they were made aware of the necessity of their acting as individuals in such matters, they would be in a position to involve others and this process would eventually activate them in broad mass activities.

We received further directives in connection with activity in the community from Sidney Wang, one of the organizers of the section, at a meeting held by the section on April 8, 1947. He instructed that the comrades must work in the mass organizations in the community such as the American Labor Party, American Jewish Congress, the Civil Rights Congress, tenants councils, all of which he said had Communists in them.

He said although the American Labor Party was bringing the issues of the day to the people, he felt the comrades in other organizations should do better party work and make the members of those organizations aware of what they should fight for.

This would make them politically conscious and teach them to vote correctly so that the Fascists and reactionaries would be defeated.

That about constituted the type of activity that was conducted on a community level in the Flatbush section. Then when I came into the Boro Hall section when I was made a member of the Jay-Smith club, I attended my first meeting there on June 20, 1947, which was a membership meeting of the Boro Hall section held at the Livingston; and Abe Osheroff, section organizer at that time, stated that the county was going to concentrate on the Boro Hall, Williamsburg, Bedford-Stuyvesant and Waterfront sections in order to organize these sections and recruit new members into the party.

The Boro Hall section had several factories within its boundaries and activity in this section was to be concentrated on these key points.

The comrades in the Boro Hall section were to be called upon to do organizational work in the industries to carry out this plan.

The Squibbs plant and the Gem Razor plant were considered very vital places. He outlined the procedure to be used in organizing these and other industries in the section, namely, that the comrades distribute leaflets at the gates of these factories, be ready to answer any questions asked of them and concentrate on those workers who showed the most interest.

Then at a meeting of the executive committee of the Jay-Smith Club held October 13, 1947, Harry Shapiro, who was acting as temporary chairman of the club at that time, announced that the Boro Hall section wanted the clubs to conduct a propaganda campaign rather than the agitational campaign they had been conducting in the past months. This called for discussion of the difference between agitation and propaganda and it was explained that in an agitation campaign the people were called upon to act in a specific manner.

For example, in leaflets on housing and rents, people were urged to write to their Congressmen asking for legislation that would furnish housing programs and rent controls. A propaganda campaign, however, was for educational purposes and in leaflets on the subject of

housing and rents the people would be informed of housing conditions, what caused them and how they could be rectified.

In line with this directive from the section, Harry Shapiro felt that the club should continue its work in the neighborhood on the issues of housing, rents, and prices, but that from that time on, any leaflets issued should be on the propaganda or educational nature.

Following a section convention held by the Boro Hall section on June 19, 1948, it was announced at the club that the Boro Hall section was going to concentrate activities upon the Negroes and Puerto Ricans in the section, and in line with this, one of the members of the club by the name of Tony Poulos, was selected to be the representative of the club at a meeting being held by the party at Central Plaza Hall on February 13, 1949, to plan organizational work in Puerto Rican communities.

Other activities sometimes consisted of what we would call emergency mobilizations and one such mobilization occurred on June 4, 1949 when Sophie Poulos, membership director of the Jay-Smith Club, informed me that she had received directives from the section that on this particular day the section was conducting a distribution of flyers on the jailing of John Gates, Henry Winston, and Gus Hall, the distribution to take place that afternoon in the shopping area along Fulton Street, Brooklyn; that on Monday, June 6 the party was conducting a picket line at Foley Square in protest of this jailing; and that on June 7 the party was conducting a mass demonstration at Union Square also in protest of this jailing.

But on this particular afternoon of June 4 Sophie Poulos and I went to the section where we picked up some of the flyers for distribution and we actually went in front of one of the department stores and distributed them for about half an hour in the afternoon.

Then on August 23, 1949, a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club was held at which there was some discussion on the local issue of discrimination against Negro longshoremen in Local 968 of the ILA (International Longshoremen Association).

This was considered a good subject to discuss with contacts because it was close to home and understandable.

In addition to this, Charles Marshall, the club organizer, announced that his suggestion of organizing an unemployment council in the neighborhood to deal with the issues of jobs and relief, had been approved by the section, and as soon as somebody could be found to give such an organization technical advice, the attempt would be made to launch it in the neighborhood.

There was another rather fast mobilization of membership which occurred on August 29, 1949. Sophie Poulos had been to the section headquarters and received the directive that the club's membership meeting which was scheduled for the following day, was to be canceled so that the membership could be notified to attend the rally at the Golden Gate ballroom at 140th Street and Lenox Avenue, on August 30 in protest against a riot which had taken place in Peekskill on August 27, when Paul Robeson gave a concert. Sophie had been given a batch of the August 29 issue of the Daily Worker which contained articles on the Peekskill incident and these were to be distributed to the club members so they would read about the riot and be fully informed and duly aroused to the point of wanting to attend that protest rally at Golden Gate ballroom.



Petitions in protest against the riot had been mimeographed and were to be sent directly to Governor Dewey as soon as the comrades had secured signatures to them.

Then in the latter part of 1949 when the Jay-Smith Club had been broken up into two groups, Jay-Smith No. 1 Club received the directive that it was to work on an Italian concentration, and Al Neptune of the section staff explained to the club at a meeting on December 6, 1949 that in order to accomplish the task of integrating the Italian people in the community into a progressive force, and eventually into the Communist Party, a campaign must be conducted to canvass specific streets in the neighborhood to find out who were the progressive people and just what their needs were.

With this information, he said, the club would be in a position to organize such groups as tenants councils which would be the basis for building an American Labor Party branch in the neighborhood which was one of the aims of the club.

He maintained that one could not immediately approach these people with the ideology of socialism as a solution to their economic needs because they were not prepared for such a long-range program, but that by helping them to achieve fairly immediate benefits in their constant day-to-day struggles through such organizations as tenants councils, they would be educated to socialism.

Now there was another project undertaken by Jay-Smith Club No. 2, and on February 15, 1950, a joint executive committee of the Jay-Smith Clubs Nos. 1 and 2 was held so that the members of club No. 1 could be informed of this particular activity on the part of club No. 2.

Al Neptune, who had now become the section educational director, had suggested that club No. 2 form a committee composed of the people in the neighborhood who were willing to fight for the employment of Negroes in community industries, and Charles Marshall and Sophie and Tony Poulos had visited contacts in the neighborhood to ask them to join a committee which would carry on a fight to see that the shops and factories in the communities, and particularly the Borden Milk Co., hired unemployed Negroes in the neighborhood for available jobs. They reported receiving the consent of several people to serve on such committee.

The next step to be taken was a meeting of these people at which a plan of action could be drawn up. The executive members of Club Jay-Smith No. 2 were to attend the meeting and be prepared to direct the discussion into the correct channels of organization and activity.

But it was also agreed by the comrades that it must not appear that they were taking over the meeting but that the contacts should be encouraged to express their ideas and make suggestions.

They were particularly anxious not to have the committee labeled Red in any way.

Then in 1951 on May 4 at a regional meeting of the club organizers of the Boro Hall, Waterfront, Boro Park and Bay Ridge, 12th A. D., Bensonhurst and Bath Beach sections, held in the headquarters of the Bath Beach section, at 2166 86th Street, it was announced that the main concentration of the Brooklyn Communist Party was the long-shoremen and in line with this a leaflet discussion was being conducted every Thursday morning on the docks of the waterfront.

Beginning with the spring of 1950 the party began an intensive peace campaign and that continued unabatingly. Part of the activ-

ity of the clubs in all sections for that matter was the attempt to form peace committees in the neighborhood, and this was the major activity when I was expelled from the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I will want to question you more in detail about the peace campaigns later.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. During the course of hearings we have received a great deal of testimony regarding rallies and demonstrations conducted by the Communist Party. Tell us briefly regarding the rallies and demonstrations held by the several Communist clubs of which you were a member.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There were very many that did take place, but probably some that might be of interest. I could go through them as briefly as I can.

There was one which occurred while I was a member of the Flatbush Club, and at a meeting of the club held on March 20, 1945, Nat Rosenbluth announced that on April 25, 1945, the day the San Francisco meeting of the U. N. was to take place, the Flatbush Club in conjunction with various other organizations in the community would stage a rally at Erasmus Hall High School, and he called on the members to see him about contacting the heads of the various community organizations to urge them to cooperate in making the rally a success.

He later reported that this rally was going along as scheduled. It was being sponsored in the name of the Americans United for World Organization. And when the rally was held, the chairman was Charles Murphy; speakers were Peter De Burr of the newspaper guild; Fannie Hurst, who was introduced as an internationalist of the first water; and Congressman John M. Coffee.

Now later in the year another rally was held at Erasmus Hall High School and also in the name of the Americans United for World Organization.

Mr. MOULDER. You said Coffee?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. C-o-f-f-e-e.

Mr. MOULDER. When was he a Member of the Congress?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It must have been around 1945.

On December 6, 1945, an anti-Rankin rally was held. It was held in the name of the Americans United for World Organization and held at Erasmus Hall High School.

In connection with this rally, there was a great deal of activity performed by the Flatbush Club. Abe Feingold had asked for volunteers to help him with the publicity of this particular rally. He was the representative of the club in the Flatbush Chapter for the Americans United for World Organization.

Following this meeting a report was made by Jack Mogolescue, who had worked on the committee to arrange for the rally, and he said that the Communists had done well in making the affair a success.

Now, in March and particularly on March 7, 1946, the party held a rally at Union Square in protest against Churchill's anti-Soviet speech which had been made just about that time. The National Secretariat of the Communist Party had issued a statement in protest of Churchill's speech and copies of this statement had been made at county headquarters and the Flatbush section itself prepared leaflets for distribution prior to the rally.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you two leaflets relating to that subject matter. Will you identify them, please.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. One of these was issued by the Joe Stember Youth Club of the Communist Party, with the address 848 Flatbush Avenue.

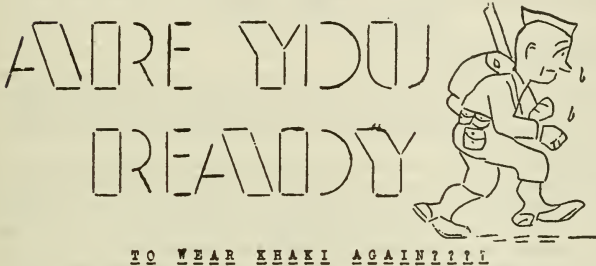
Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 24," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 24

51-183



The boys have no sooner come home from fighting an anti-fascist war, but the war-mongers are trying to involve us in an imperialist struggle.

This is the only path that the "get tough with the Soviet boys" and Churchill's speech can lead to.

Churchill has a long record of reaction behind him. In 1920 he sent English troops to fight the then struggling Soviets. Although that adventure failed, thousands of English and American troops died. Churchill's praise of Franco and Mussolini are well known and emphasize the type of man and the reactionary aims he has. He is trying to win America's support for the dying British Empire. DO YOU WANT TO DIE IN KHAKI FOR THAT?

At home our own imperialists led by Byrnes and Vandenberg play this dangerous game. Play it with our lives.

Is there any justification for their actions?

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

WRITE AND WIRE THE STATE DEPARTMENT CONDEMNING CHURCHILL'S SPEECHES.

URGE YOUR CONGRESSMAN TO STAND BEHIND AMERICAN-SOVIET RELATIONS.

SUPPORT AND JOIN THE FLATBUSH COMMUNIST PARTY WHICH IS FIGHTING AGAINST A THIRD WORLD WAR AND FOR DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS AT HOME!

Joe Stember Youth Club  
Communist Party  
848 Flatbush Avenue

We meet every Thursday Night.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In addition to that particular throwaway, there is this petition to the President of the United States issued by the Flatbush section of the Communist Party at 848 Flatbush Avenue in protest against Churchill's speech.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the second document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 25," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 25

PROTEST CHURCHILL'S SPEECHES—URGE CONGRESSMEN TO STAND BEHIND  
AMERICAN-SOVIET RELATIONS

To the President of the United States

Honorable HARRY S. TRUMAN:

The American people are worried by Churchill's war inciting speeches. His provocative remarks followed closely the "get tough with Russia" policy outlined by Secretary of State Byrnes, and UNO delegate, Senator Vandenberg. Your presence at Fulton, Mo., when Churchill spoke, gave his inflammatory statements official American sanction.

Churchill does not speak for the British people who repudiated him at the polls only a short time ago. He does not speak for the American people who fought and won World War II as the allies of the Russian people; who elected President Roosevelt on a program of friendship with the Soviet Union. Churchill speaks only for British and American monopolists who see their profits and privileges endangered by the democratic advances of the people.

We urge that you publicly reject Churchill's war incitations; that you re-establish American-Soviet friendship as the only guaranty of maintaining the peace and building a United Nations of peace-loving, democratic countries.

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Issued By: Flatbush Section, Communist Party, 848 Flatbush Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Mr. MOULDER. Going back to the reference to the Member of Congress, was his name John Coffee?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. John M. Coffee.

Mr. MOULDER. Was he at a rally or was he the speaker at the rally?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It is my recollection to that effect. I don't have the throwaway that was—

Mr. MOULDER. Do you know whether he knew it was a Communist rally?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I will tell you, sir. At this time the Americans United for World Organization I think was accepted as a very legitimate organization. It did have on its roster the names of very well-known people all through the United States.

Mr. MOULDER. That is the point I wanted to clarify.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Later, though, many of these sponsors removed their names. However, the announcement was made at that time in the Flatbush club that it was continuing without sponsorship of these names.



I think I told you before that in 1946 the party was conducting a campaign to save OPA, and on April 24, 1946 a demonstration to save the OPA was held at Union Square under the auspices of the New York State Committee of the Communist Party and the speakers at this demonstration were William Norman, organizational secretary of the New York State Communist Party, who was chairman; Irving Goff, chairman of the New York State Communist Party Veterans Committee; June Gordon, introduced as a member of the consumers council, and the IWO; John Williamson, national secretary of the Communist Party; Dr. Bella V. Dodd, legislative director of the New York State Communist Party; Hal Simon, leader of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, CIO, and chairman of the trade union committee of the New York State Communist Party; Claudia Jones, member of the national board of the Communist Party; and Robert Thompson, chairman of the New York State Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you two throwaway sheets and ask if you can identify them with that particular demonstration.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir. One was an advertisement of the demonstration to be held on April 24 and the other was a leaflet which was distributed at the rally itself. It was in connection with what can be done to save the OPA and it also called upon members to join the May Day parade on May First and "March with your Communist Party club or trade union or mass organization."

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer in evidence the first throwaway sheet as "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 26," for identification purposes only and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the second document in evidence and ask that it be marked Blauvelt exhibit 27, and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

# *What You Can Do To Save OPA*

1. Get at least TWENTY other people (from your family, apartment building, shop, office, campus) to send WIRES AND LETTERS AT ONCE to Senators Robert F. Wagner and Charles Tobey demanding real price control, with no crippling amendments.
2. Help map out a program in your shop, or community, or organization.... these are suggestions for ACTION:
  - \* Telegrams - Petitions - Letters -- Help collect them, and see that they are sent!
  - \* Emergency conferences, including all organizations in your area. Send representative delegations to your individual Congressman demanding a real FIGHT for OPA.
  - \* Plan community parades or outdoor rallies...big, and well-organized, with placards and sound-trucks where possible.
  - \* Set up tables at busy street corners to collect signatures on petitions or telegrams. Ask for permission to make an appeal at your local movie for action to save OPA...
  - \* Special appeal to the women's organizations. Ask every housewife who has a 'phone to telephone others, appealing for letters and telegrams.
3. Lend your strength to enforce OPA Price Regulations in your local store and community.

Remember -- the biggest action of the people will be the UNITED LABOR MAY DAY PARADE taking place on May 1st. Ask everyone who is concerned about OPA to MARCH ON MAY 1ST! March with your Communist Party Club or your trade union or your mass organization. The parade will proceed south on 8th Ave. from 56th St. to 17th St., then east to Union Square.

Strengthen the people's forces in the fight against the drive toward reaction and war in our country by JOINING and HELPING TO BUILD THE COMMUNIST PARTY!

- *All Out Action of Every Individual is Needed!*
- *United Action Can Win Real Price Control!*
- *What YOU Do is Decisive!*

Issued by: New York State Communist Party, 35 East 12 St., N.Y. 3, N.Y.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Of course the party members were instructed to attend not only rallies and demonstrations that were held in the name of the Communist Party itself, but also in the name of other organizations which were considered mass organizations.

In connection with this, on September 10, 1946, at a meeting of the Lincoln Road Club held in the home of David Edelson, the comrades were given a pamphlet on the Madison Square Garden rally to be held September 12, 1946, by the national campaign committee of the Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, and National Citizens Political Action Committee.

On June 10, 1947, the CIO held a parade and rally at Madison Square Garden in protest against the Taft-Hartley bill and most of the Communist Party clubs canceled their meetings—this was on a Tuesday night, so that the comrades could attend this parade and rally.

Now they also did conduct protest actions or demonstrations and here was one that might be of interest. At a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club held December 7, 1948, it was announced that the Communist Party was holding a demonstration at city hall on December 8 from 10 a. m. to 1 p. m., to protest to the mayor against lack of action taken in the case of an assault against Robert Thompson, chairman of the New York State Communist Party and the case of assault against his 7-year-old daughter.

When the trial of the party's leaders opened, there was a continuing process of negotiations in protest against the trial and at an executive committee of the Jay-Smith Club held January 10, 1949, it was announced that the party would hold a demonstration at Foley Square on January 17, 1949, when the trial of the party's 12 leaders opened.

Also in connection with the trial, it was announced at a membership meeting of the Boro Hall section March 1, 1949, that a demonstration was to be held at Madison Square Park on March 3 from 5 to 7 p. m. in protest against the trial of the party's 12 leaders and members were instructed to take leaflets for distribution. According to the leaflet the rally was being held under the auspices of the United Committee for Democratic Rights, Hotel Diplomat, with Paul Robeson and Ben Gold as cochairmen.

Mr. TAVENNER. I have before me a throwaway sheet published under the auspices of the United Committee for Democratic Rights. Is that the document to which you referred?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right. This is the throwaway, in connection with this mass rally, which the comrades were instructed to distribute.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit 28," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

# MASS RALLY

MADISON SQUARE PARK

Thursday, March 3rd—5-7 P.M.

## *Demonstrate*

### **For a Democratic Federal Jury System**

The trial of the 12 Communist leaders has produced evidence of systematic exclusion of workers, Negroes, Jews and members of other minorities, from the Federal jury system in the Southern Judicial District in New York.

The admission in court by Federal Jury Clerk Joseph F. McKenzie that he failed to send jury notices to voters in Harlem and the lower East Side in 1947 and 1948, is shocking proof of the discrimination practiced in the selection of Federal juries.

### **For the Right of a Political Party To Be Judged by the People, Not the Courts**

The indictment against the Communist leaders charges them with organizing to teach and advocate the principles of Marxism. No acts other than these are charged. This is an attempt to accomplish through the courts, what the people rejected in defeating the Mundt-Nixon police-state Bill.

### **For Dismissal of the Indictments**

The trial itself, therefore, is a direct threat to the democratic rights of all the people; of labor, the Negro people, all minority groups.

## **Democracy Is On Trial in Foley Square!**

### **Your Democratic Rights...**

To participate in the Federal jury system  
To judge for yourself the merits of political parties  
To exercise freedom of thought and freedom of speech—

**...Are at Stake!**

**ACT NOW IN DEFENSE OF YOUR LIBERTIES!**

**All Out to Madison Square Park, March 3rd!**

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*Auspices:* UNITED COMMITTEE FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS

HOTEL DIPLOMAT, 108 West 43rd Street, New York, N. Y.

*Co-Chairmen:* PAUL ROBESON AND BEN GOLD

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I think, as I have indicated, the type of demonstration and rally which the party wished its members to attend was quite numerous and there was one particular one which might be of interest.

For instance, the Daily Worker and the Morning Freiheit were conducting a labor bazaar to be held from May 20 to May 23, 1949, at St. Nicholas Arena and at a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries of the Communist clubs in the Boro Hall section, held on May 4, 1949, Caryll Lasky, the financial secretary of the section, gave me a book of tickets which the Jay-Smith Club was to sell in connection with their particular labor press bazaar. The purpose, of course, of the press bazaar was to raise money for both the Daily Worker and the Morning Freiheit.

Then on June 13, 1949 at a meeting of organizers of the clubs in the Boro Hall section, it was announced that a welcome home rally for Paul Robeson was being held June 19, 1949, at Rockland Palace by the Council on African Affairs, and the comrades were instructed to support this particular welcome home rally.

There also was a protest rally held on May 18, 1950, at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in protest against the Mundt bill and the comrades were also instructed to attend this particular rally.

There was something which I thought interesting at the time. It was on May 23, 1950, at an executive committee meeting of Jay-Smith Club No. 1, held in the home of Ruth Perloff, that Caryll Lasky announced that a demonstration was to be held May 24, 1950, by the party. She stated that Common Cause, Inc. was holding a meeting at Town Hall, 44th Street between Sixth and Seventh Avenues on Wednesday evening May 24 at which Gen. Lucius Clay would speak. For 2 days prior to her announcement an advertisement had appeared in the Daily Worker in the name American Jewish Labor Council asking for support of the picket line at Town Hall to protest against this meeting.

The party was organizing its forces to mobilize the membership to participate in that picket line. The demonstration was scheduled to take place from 7 to 8 p. m. and the party wanted 2 members from each club to buy tickets at the box office and attend the meeting because an attempt would probably be made to disrupt the meeting and the comrades were to participate in the heckling.

Caryll Lasky instructed that the comrades were not to start anything themselves as it would be done by a group who would know when the proper time for starting the heckling had arrived and it was then and only then that the comrades were to join in.

Now I happened to be attending a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries on the evening of May 24, 1950, and as I left, I met Al Neptune, the educational director, who had just returned from this demonstration, and he said it had been a good one in that thousands had turned out for it but terrible in that it had been like the Peekskill incident of 1949, only that this time it had been the police with whom they came into conflict instead of the Fascist veterans, as he called them, that had disrupted the Robeson concert in Peekskill in September 1949.

Further reports on this particular demonstration from the comrades were to the effect that the party members had done a very good job in connection with the demonstration.



On August 2, 1950, a peace rally was held in Union Square in the name of the New York Labor Conference for Peace. In connection with this particular rally, for about a month prior to its being held, there was a good deal of organizing within the party and every member was contacted and instructed to attend.

There was some difficulty in gaining a permit for that rally. It had been stated many times that even if the party did not get that permit they were going to hold the rally anyway.

Mr. MOULDER. We will stand in recess.

[Brief recess.]

Mr. MOULDER. You may proceed.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There was another rally which was held by the party at Manhattan Center on August 20, 1950—held by the Committee to Defend the 12, of which Elizabeth Gurley Flynn was chairman, and this meeting was held, again in connection with the party's leaders, asking for continuation of bail.

There is just one final meeting which I would like to bring to your attention because I think the meeting illustrates to some degree how the Communist Party in a very close community group tried to include people of a nationality group.

This instance occurred at a meeting on May 8, 1951, at a meeting of Jay-Smith Clubs Nos. 1 and 2 and the La Pasionaria Club, the Puerto Rican Club of the Boro Hall section, held in the home of Carlos Dore, who was organizer of the La Pasionaria Club at that time. He announced that the Puerto Rican branch of the IWO and the American Labor Party which shared headquarters at 131 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn, was holding its annual Mothers' Day meeting May 13, 1951, at Public School No. 5.

Carlos Dore said the meeting needed to be advertised through leaflets but IWO had no money to do this and he hoped the American Labor Party would take the responsibility of printing the leaflets. It was very questionable as to just what would be done but in the event that leaflets could be printed the Jay-Smith Clubs were going to distribute them in the Gowanus housing project in order to reach the Puerto Rican element that lived in that particular project.

This actually was a meeting that was being conducted through the agency of the Puerto Rican branch in the Boro Hall section.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, the committee has heard in various sections of the country, particularly in the State of Washington, that the Communist Party was interested in having itself felt in the political field and endeavored to influence various political parties through one method or another.

We have heard a great deal about their interest in the establishing of a third party. You have mentioned it a number of times in the course of your testimony. Your testimony already shows the work done in your groups to some extent at least in the American Labor Party.

Will you give us a general statement regarding the interest of the Communist Party in political matters and tell the committee briefly whether or not you were assigned to any activities in this field and in a general way what the rank and file membership was expected to do in this field?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, the Communist Party in New York State was not on the ballot and it did have to make itself felt, it did have to have

a political voice, and this political voice in New York was the American Labor Party.

Now, the Communist Party itself did conduct campaigns for Communists who were running as independents. This was true in the case of Peter V. Cacchione in Brooklyn and Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., in Manhattan who had been elected to the New York City Council.

In 1945 when Cacchione was running for reelection I was assigned by my club, the Flatbush Club, to work in campaign headquarters which was conducted by the party. Campaign headquarters were located at 26 Court Street in the same building as the county headquarters of the Brooklyn Party.

All of the members assigned to it, or rather all of the people who were assigned to work in this campaign headquarters were members of the Communist Party. Actually they sent out mailings, which was the purpose for our being there, to assist in sending out mailings to the Italian voters. The mailings were sent out in the name of the Citizens Committee To Reelect Peter V. Cacchione.

I believe the same thing was done in Manhattan in connection with Benjamin J. Davis. I know there were times when we were instructed to participate in the campaign for Benjamin J. Davis, Jr.

In connection with the American Labor Party, as I said, the Communist Party felt that it would have to support progressive candidates, those candidates whom they could look upon to project issues to its satisfaction, and that they found these candidates in the American Labor Party.

I was assigned on one occasion while I was still a member of the Flatbush section, I was a member of the Lincoln Road Club at the time, to the American Labor Party headquarters at 565 Henry Street, which was conducting a campaign at that time to elect Vincent Longhi to Congress.

He was running on a Republican and American Labor Party ticket. Well, at these headquarters, I found those participating in the campaign were either members of the Communist Party or American Labor Party or the American Youth for Democracy and mailings were being sent to registered ALP voters, registered war veterans and to Democrats in favor of Longhi, and were being sent out under the names of the ALP of the Third Assembly District; Veterans Committee for the Election of Vincent Longhi to Congress, and Democrats in Favor of Election of Vincent Longhi to Congress, all bearing the address 565 Henry Street.

I imagine that would about cover my activity at that headquarters, but it is indicative of the fact that members of the party were assigned to work at American Labor Party headquarters.

In connection with the close association of the Communist Party and American Labor Party, I think that I could probably point out some incidents which occurred and which may be of interest and probably tend to show just what this connection was.

For instance, on September 9, 1946, at a joint executive meeting of the clubs in the Flatbush section, Esta Buss of the Lincoln Road Club, active in the American Labor Party, stated she was dissatisfied with the manner in which the Communist leadership in the Flatbush American Labor Party was running things.

Sid Wang, organizer of the section, said he would look into the situation and speak to Herman Abramson about it. He declared that

the American Labor Party in Flatbush was beginning to consider itself superior to the Communist Party and he was going to put a stop to it. He said he was going to call a meeting of the comrades in the American Labor Party to let them know what their duties were and he was quite emphatic in insisting that if Herman Abramson could not handle the job of chairman of the American Labor Party properly, he would have to be recalled to work in the Communist Party instead.

Great importance, of course, was attached to having branches of the American Labor Party in the various communities and one of the aims of the Jay-Smith Club in the latter part of 1949 was to establish just such a branch of the American Labor Party in the neighborhood of the Jay-Smith Club for the immediate purpose of getting out the vote for the ALP in the coming election and with the long-range view of a permanent American Labor Party in the community.

It was the responsibility of the Jay-Smith Club to see that this was done and the advisability of using the club's Communist Party headquarters at 270 Bergen Street was discussed. However, it was decided that inasmuch as some of the people in the neighborhood did not wish to be associated with the Communist Party, they might look with disfavor upon a branch of the American Labor Party if it were in the same headquarters as the Communist Party, and therefore, we did find another location on another street and we maintained that location—it was on Warren street—for the period of the election in 1949 and conducted our American Labor Party activities from that headquarters.

MR. TAVENNER. Do you mean by that the Communist Party club made arrangements for the securing of a headquarters for the American Labor Party?

MRS. BLAUVELT. That is correct. We actually did rent this particular—I guess you would call it a store—and maintained literature there and conducted our activities for canvassing from that as a headquarters for the American Labor Party.

Anyone in the neighborhood who was interested in working for the American Labor Party, was told to go there and they would receive advice so far as working for the party or any advice needed in the matter of elections.

MR. TAVENNER. Does that mean that the Communist Party actually paid the rent for the quarters?

MRS. BLAUVELT. Yes. This was paid by the section, the Boro Hall section. Following this particular campaign that I was mentioning, we were instructed that the establishment of the ALP was to be the main task of the Jay-Smith Club and we were given instructions by Al Neptune of the section committee that the Communist Party members alone were not to constitute the membership of this American Labor Party Club but we were to canvass the contacts which we had made during the recent election campaign to see who would be willing to join the work in this neighborhood branch of the American Labor Party, and he also instructed that the Jay-Smith Clubs were to get 2 or 3 of the inactive and unknown members to form the nucleus of the American Labor Party Club and that sympathetic contacts be drawn into it and that its initial activity would be the mailing of American Labor Party literature.

Of course in all of these campaigns there was a very definite procedure that was followed. It started at the time of registration.



All of the comrades had to be mobilized to get out into the neighborhood, do a canvassing job, to see that the people in the neighborhood were registered so that they could vote in the elections and in most cases this work was done in the name of the American Labor Party with American Labor Party literature.

And then following the registration work, we would have to get out into the neighborhood to make sure that all of these contacts that had been made did get out and vote on election day, and they were always told to vote for the American Labor Party candidates.

In 1948 of course there was a concerted effort at that time to have the people vote for Wallace. Now as far back as 1945, at the end of 1945, while I was still in the Flatbush Club there had been talk about a third party and this progressed to the point of finally saying, "Well, Wallace is going to be the candidate whom we can rally our forces around", and when Wallace did declare his intention of running, there became a very intensive effort on the part of the comrades to constantly speak about Wallace; urge them to vote for him.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have made direct allusion to the work of the rank and file members of the Communist Party in mass organizations. Will you tell the committee, please, how that work was organized and to what extent the Communist Party itself stressed its importance?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Activity in mass organization was really considered "a must" and directives were constantly being handed down from the section to the branches ordering the comrades to join the mass organizations, become active in them, and influence these mass organizations to follow the party line. I do have a number of references to directives if you wish to go into them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes, please.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. For instance, at a meeting of the Flatbush Club held on December 5, 1945, Nat Rosenbluth, the chairman, stated that the comrades must work in the mass organizations such as the American Labor Party, the International Workers Order, the Political Action Committee, and the Consumers Council. Now in connection with this type of work we had a meeting of the Flatbush Club on December 20 at which Leo Auerbach discussed the foreign policy of the United States. He said that this policy was proceeding in the wrong direction, giving as examples intervention in the internal affairs of China, exclusion of the Soviet Union from knowledge of the atom bomb, and encouragement to the British in their fight against the Indonesians. Such a foreign policy, he said, was imperialistic and a result of a system of monopoly capital and it was up to the working class to see that the Government pursued the correct policy and that this could be done by bringing pressure on Congress.

The job of the Communists was to instruct and educate the working class, clarify the issues for them, and be the vanguard in showing them what action to take and this could be done right in the community by contacting leaders of various neighborhood organizations to ask that joint action be taken in protesting against incorrect policies and by having the Communists who were active in other mass organizations take the initiative in formulating opinion and policy.

Then on July 9, 1946, at a meeting of the Lincoln Road Club in the home of Sylvia Richman, one of the members, Al diMartino felt that the people must be shown that the only way to rectify conditions

of the worker was through socialism and he said labor should become more politically conscious and he felt the Political Action Committee should be pushed.

Sid Wang of the section staff enlarged on this thought by stating that it was the job of the Communists in every mass organization, as well as in the trade unions, to go just another step beyond the organization and point out that it was ultimately only through socialism that the people would gain benefits denied them under the present system.

This need not be done on the floor at meetings, he declared, but could be accomplished gradually if the Communists in the organization would seek out others to educate by constantly keeping in contact with them and speaking to them and who, in turn, would educate others.

There was another meeting on September 16 of 1946 of the executive committee of the Lincoln Road Club in the home of Bill Cahn; and Ruth Wang, membership director of the section, announced that the Flatbush section was holding a meeting on Friday night, September 20, which all members of the party who were also members of mass organizations were to be instructed to attend for the purpose of receiving directives as to how they were supposed to work in those organizations.

In my particular club it included Esta Buss, who was active in the American Labor Party, Rose Gellar, and Rhoda Cahn who were to be active in organizing a consumers council which the Flatbush section planned to set up.

At the beginning of 1947, on February 11, 1947, at a meeting of the Lincoln Road Club in the home of Rose Gellar, it was announced that a directive had been received from the section that a record must be kept of all members who belonged to mass organizations.

Now there was still more discussion on this particular topic and on March 4, 1947, at a meeting of the Lincoln Road Club, both Harold Heyman and Bill Cahn expressed the opinion that a Communist in a mass organization need not necessarily reveal himself as a Communist but his task was to surround himself with a nucleus and attempt to raise their political level and that of the organization.

During this time, of course, the members of the Lincoln Road Club were, upon directives of the section, attempting to join these various mass organizations and at one of the meetings held April 22, 1947, the organizations were listed which the members were to join and they were the American Jewish Congress, Civil Rights Congress, American Labor Party, Congress of American Women, parent-teachers associations, Progressive Citizens of America, Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order of the IWO, and any of the various churches, synagogues and fraternal organizations in the neighborhood.

Bill Cahn added the Masons, of which Gil Pelham was a member, and consumers and tenants councils were included.

At this meeting Sid Wang, organizer of the section, felt that the housing situation was so pressing that the comrades should concentrate on working in the consumers and tenants councils as the best medium at the moment for reaching the people but that this was not to deter them from joining other mass organizations.

Mr. TAVENNER. You stated that the membership was directed to join various mass organizations including churches, synagogues, and

fraternal organizations. Can you give more specific information regarding the effort made by the Communist Party to have its members join churches for Communist Party purposes?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, I know of no one myself who actually was working in a church. However, in the latter part of 1950 and around the beginning of 1951 I was approached myself with the idea of probably joining a church and doing what I could to influence the people of the church, which I would happen to join, along party lines. At that time, also, I was approached with the idea of probably joining the YWCA to project the party line to those people who were members of that organization.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you do that?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir. I objected to pursuing any activity in a church. They might have taken my objection to mean that I was opposed on the grounds that I was supposedly a Communist and although I had promised that I would see what I could do about joining the YWCA I never got around to it and I wasn't pressed too much anyway at that particular time, because I was expelled not much later.

During my membership in the Jay-Smith Club, this same pattern which I have described for the Flatbush section, was followed and actually here attempts were made to establish a branch of the American Labor Party which I have already spoken of and a branch of the Civil Rights Congress. The comrades who lived in the Gowanus housing project, were instructed to become active in the tenants council in that project.

We received other instructions regarding mass organizations and I don't know whether you wish me to go into those particular instructions now or not.

Mr. TAVENNER. We would be interested in knowing what mass organization you were instructed to join or the membership was instructed to join in addition to those already named.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There was some discussion along those lines at a meeting of the executive committee of both Jay-Smith Clubs Nos. 1 and 2 held on December 18, 1950.

Ruth Perloff instructed that in addition to the usual mass organizations which we had always included as among those of which we should be members the comrades were to be instructed to join the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, YMCA, YWCA, churches, American Jewish Congress and PTA. These, of course, being considered to the right and therefore necessary to be infiltrated if they possibly could.

Now it developed that the comrades in my particular club at that time were in the American Labor Party, they were in the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, they were in the CIO Teachers Union, IWO, food workers union, tenants council, and railroad union.

This directive from Ruth Perloff was repeated again about a month or so later when she said that the comrades must be instructed to join some mass organization, particularly the conservative rightwing organizations so that they reach the people other than the progressives in the leftwing organizations in an attempt to influence them to think along party lines.

Mr. TAVENNER. You spoke of work to be done in the Civil Rights Congress. Will you give the committee the history of the work of these clubs in the Civil Rights Congress?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, the Civil Rights Congress had come into existence in the spring of 1946 and it was shortly thereafter that the chapter of the Civil Rights Congress was established in the Flatbush section. Now, this Flatbush chapter held a rally on August 22, 1946, at the Biltmore Hall to protest Negro lynchings and at a meeting of the Lincoln Road Club held the night before, the comrades had been directed to attend the meeting and Gil Pelham, club organizer, stated that each party branch in the section was being assessed \$5.00 to help defray the expenses of the rally, and as treasurer of the club I turned this money over to Ruth Wang, membership director of the section, at a meeting at her home the following week.

On September 3, 1946, at a meeting of the Lincoln Road Club at the home of Bill and Rhoda Cahn, Jack Sartisky, who was secretary of the veterans committee of the Civil Rights Congress, spoke about the necessity of the Communist Party members to work in the Civil Rights Congress to give it proper Communist leadership.

He said that the Flatbush chapter which had been established 2 months previously, had only Sadie Friedman as the only Communist with experience in the leadership in this Flatbush chapter and he insisted that the clubs must assign a member to work in this particular chapter. It was just about a week later that the Flatbush section of the party ordered that each club in the section send at least one of its members to join the Flatbush Civil Rights Congress, become active in its program and give it Communist leadership, and Dorothy Liff was so assigned by the Lincoln Road Club.

At about this time, in fact it was October 23, 1946, the Civil Rights Congress conducted an American Crusade to End Lynching and the comrades were given pamphlets in the form of a call to join this march on Washington.

We were instructed by Herb Cooper, the section organizer to send delegates if we possibly could do so.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you send delegates to Washington?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. My club did not, no.

In connection with activity on the Civil Rights Congress while I was a member of the Jay-Smith Club, there was a case which arose in the fall of 1948 which involved the husband of Adele Hardison, a member of the youth group of the party, and the son-in-law of Minnie Monroe, the adult member in our adult Jay-Smith Club. He had been arrested and charged with carrying burglar's tools. This situation was brought to the attention of the county committee of the Brooklyn party and also to the Civil Rights Congress and arrangements were made so that the Civil Rights Congress did accept the case, furnished the lawyers to handle it, furnished the bail of \$1,500, and the Boro Hall section was to conduct propaganda activity in the neighborhood and of course the Jay-Smith Club especially was to do so.

The Boro Hall section issued leaflets in connection with this particular incident, calling attention to the fact that Tony Hardison was going to come up for trial on a certain date and urging the people in the neighborhood to attend the trial and then after he was convicted, there was more activity, other leaflets were prepared, the people in the neighborhood were asked to contribute to a defense fund.



Now in all of this activity the Boro Hall section and the Jay-Smith Club tried to form a defense committee for Tony Hardison and it was hoped that this defense committee would be the nucleus for establishing a chapter of the Civil Rights Congress in the Boro Hall section of Brooklyn.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the civil rights angle to the Hardison case?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Actually there wasn't any civil rights angle to it. The boy had been arrested on charges of carrying burglars' tools and the case was taken up in the first instance because he was related to members of the party and of course to provide legal assistance for him, it was done through the Civil Rights Congress.

All of the activity was designed with the idea of forming a branch of the Civil Rights Congress in the neighborhood.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you four throwaway sheets, a petition to Mayor O'Dwyer, and another statement directed to Mayor O'Dwyer, and I ask if you can identify those documents as propaganda documents issued by the Communist Party or by the Civil Rights Congress through the assistance of the Communist Party in connection with the Hardison case.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. This particular leaflet is addressed to Mayor O'Dwyer and it was issued by the Jay-Smith Club, calling attention to this particular case.

This is another leaflet which was drawn up by Bea Sacks, organizer of the Boro Hall section. It was drawn up in the name of the Boro citizens committee of the Civil Rights Congress.

This throwaway was drawn up by the Boro Hall section in the name of the Boro Hall Civil Rights Congress Committee for Hardison Defense.

In addition to that, they had printed a petition which was addressed to the judge who was presiding in the case to ask for clemency in his sentencing.

These petitions were circulated in the neighborhood and were presented to the presiding judge just prior to the date of sentencing.

After Hardison had been sentenced the activity continued on the case and was conducted in the name of the Brooklyn Civil Rights Congress at 775 Flatbush Avenue, and the comrades were given petitions to which they were to sign their names, and which also solicited contributions, the purpose being that they were to be used to help meet the expenses of the trial.

This is a leaflet which was drawn up by the Brooklyn Civil Rights Congress in connection with the Hardison case and was to be used for distribution and circulation.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I request that the six documents above referred to be treated as "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 29" for identification purposes only and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered that the six documents identified by the witness will be marked as one exhibit: "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 29."

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Following the indictment of the party's 12 leaders at the end of 1948, the comrades were told that there was to be a pilgrimage to Washington conducted in the name of the Civil Rights Congress on January 17 and 18 of 1949.

However, I believe that I have spoken of that particular delegation before. We did participate in it and we did send delegates on it.

The Civil Rights Congress of New York held a conference for civil and human rights at City Center Casino, June 25, 1949.

Bob Ehrlich, the organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section had directed that each club send one delegate and Fred Dawn was selected as a delegate from the Jay-Smith Club. A call for this was issued by the Civil Rights Congress and was given to the executive members of the club.

Mr. TAVENNER. During your experience in the Communist Party did you find at any time that the Civil Rights Congress defended anyone who was not a member of the Communist Party or a person in whom the Communist Party was not directly interested?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I can't say that of my own personal knowledge, sir, because the most personal contact I had with the Civil Rights Congress defending any one known to me personally was in this case of Tony Hardison. Tony Hardison was related to members of the Communist Party and it came to the attention of the party because of that fact. And it was used by the Communist Party because of that fact.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did any instance come to your attention where the Civil Rights Congress defended a person who was not a member of the Communist Party or who was a person in whom the Communist Party was not directly interested? Do you know of any case?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I do not know of any case like that.

There was an interesting directive which came down to the Jay-Smith Club in August of 1950. At a meeting of the executive committee of the Jay-Smith Club on August 22, 1950, Al Neptune, the educational director of the Boro Hall section stated that one of the major activities to be undertaken by the club was the establishment of a chapter of the Civil Rights Congress in the neighborhood. He explained that if the Communist Party should be made illegal it would have to reach the people through the medium of mass organizations.

He stated the Communist Party was now in the process of drawing up blueprints for this activity, the purpose of which was to use the party's agitational method, agitprop method as called in Communist Party parlance, to stir the people into action.

He stated the Boro Hall section had decided that the establishment of a Civil Rights Congress chapter was to be the task of the two Jay-Smith clubs and the Riverside Club, which would take in the Negro and Puerto Rican concentrations and the Gowanus housing project. He said he was being released from section activities to teach a class one evening a week at Jefferson School but would give his spare time to acting as the coordinator in the section's endeavor to establish the chapter of the Civil Rights Congress.

One of our members in the Jay-Smith Club No. 2, Selma Brockman, its educational director, was assigned by the Boro Hall section to conduct this activity in the area of the Jay-Smith clubs. We had rather a difficult time in getting any chapter established and we were to make a fresh start sometime in December. However, we just didn't get any results with this and it finally died out.

Mr. TAVENNER. You referred to the Civil Rights call for a conference in the earlier part of your discussion.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is right.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a document entitled "Call to Conference," and ask you if you can identify it as the call to the conference you mentioned.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, this is the call which was given to the executive members of the Jay-Smith Club.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 30" for identification only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. You referred to the activity of the club along with the Civil Rights Congress in regard to the 12 persons on trial under the Smith Act.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. That is correct.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you four documents and ask you to identify them.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The one is a throwaway issued by the New York State Civil Rights Congress announcing that the trial of the 12 indicted Communist Party leaders was to open on Friday, October 15. That would have been Friday, October 15, 1948. We had to distribute these particular leaflets in the neighborhood.

This leaflet and petition was issued, the leaflet was issued in the name of the New York Civil Rights Congress and the petition was issued in the name of the Civil Rights Congress of New York.

These were used by the comrades for distribution in the early part of January. They were meant to bring to the attention of the people in the neighborhood the fact that the 12 Communist leaders were on trial. The petition was used in order to get contributions and the comrades had been told that if they received contributions, these contributions would be used to send delegates on the delegation being sent to Washington on January 18, 1949.

This is the throwaway issued by the New York State Civil Rights Congress which advertises the Peoples Freedom Crusade to Washington on January 17 and 18, 1949.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I offer the documents above referred to in evidence and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 31" for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

The committee will stand in recess until 10 o'clock in the morning. (Whereupon, at 4:30 p. m. the hearing was recessed, to reconvene at 10 a. m. Friday, May 6, 1955.)





# INVESTIGATION OF COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES, NEW YORK AREA—PART IV

FRIDAY, MAY 6, 1955

UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE  
COMMITTEE ON UN-AMERICAN ACTIVITIES,  
*Washington, D. C.*

## PUBLIC HEARING

A subcommittee met, pursuant to recess, at 10 a. m. in the caucus room, Old House Office Building, Hon. Morgan M. Moulder (chairman) presiding.

Committee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder and Gordon H. Scherer.

Staff members present: Frank S. Tavenner, counsel, and George C. Williams, investigator.

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed, please.

## TESTIMONY OF MRS. MILDRED BLAUVELT—Resumed

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, will you outline briefly the work done by the Communist Party units of which you were a member in the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee work.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. While I was a member of the Ninth A. D. Club, at a meeting held May 11, 1943, the members were instructed to go to the American Labor Party headquarters to get collection cans to aid in the collection of funds being conducted under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

Another incident occurred while I was a member of the Flatbush Club. On August 7, 1945, at a meeting of this club, Nat Rosenbluth, the chairman, read a letter he had received from Edward Barsky, chairman of the Spanish refugee appeal of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, in which the club was requested to send 2 delegates to attend a conference on August 15 at the Hotel Astor for the purpose of discussing plans for a rally to be held at Madison Square Garden by that committee on September 24. Leon Dorsky, a member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and Mildred Lanser, known also as Mickey, were chosen as delegates.

Leon Dorsky reported on this conference at a meeting of the Flatbush Club August 21, 1945 and called for the organization of a Spanish aid committee, of which he was made chairman, to see that the Flat-

bush Club was activized in supporting the rally to be held on September 24 to aid Loyalist Republicans and protest against Franco.

On September 20, 1945, the Flatbush Club held an outdoor meeting for the purpose of promoting this Spanish refugee appeal's rally on September 24.

Alex Rosen, acting as chairman and assisted by Leon Dorsky a veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, addressed a crowd of about 25 to 30 people and an attempt was made to sell tickets for the rally at Madison Square Garden on September 24.

At the Flatbush Club meeting which was held September 20, Moishe Brier of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade spoke about this rally for Spain and asked the club to make a monetary contribution, and Abe Feingold, vice president of the club, called for contributions. Forty-three dollars was collected and Ruth Wang was directed to contribute this amount of money at the rally in the name of the club.

Now, in addition to supporting this rally which was called Salute to Spanish Republicans, the club participated in a tag day campaign conducted by the Spanish refugee appeal from September 27 to 29, 1945. The Spanish aid committee of the Flatbush Club conducted the club's participation by taking 100 collection cans and keeping the clubrooms open from September 25 to 29 so that the members could pick up these collection cans to take them out and return them when filled.

Then, when I was a member of the Jay-Smith Club, the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee conducted an outdoor solicitation of funds from May 20 to 22, 1948, and in connection with this solicitation of funds I turned into the Boro Hall section a collection can bearing the license No. 5443, which had been issued by the New York City Department of Welfare. This can had been used by Majorie Marshall for the collection of funds.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you a throwaway sheet apparently published by the American Labor Party but which shows it was under the auspices of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Will you explain that, please?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This is actually a throwaway issue by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and this notation of the American Labor Party was simply stamped on this particular throwaway so that the comrades, when they were given this leaflet at the meeting of May 11, 1943, would know where to pick up the collection cans for this particular tag day collection.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 32" and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 32

*Calling all friends of Republican Spain!*

**VICTORY VOLUNTEERS**

*are needed NOW to aid the heroic  
Spanish Republicans and  
International Brigadiers*

**STREET COLLECTION**

**TAG DAYS, MAY 13, 14, 15**

*For the Relief and Rehabilitation of these  
First Anti-Fascist Fighters*



*"They Fought Fascism in Spain —  
Help Them Fight Again!"*

**NEW YORKERS! *Give* GENEROUSLY TO AID  
THESE HEROES OF  
DEMOCRACY....**

**MAIN TAG DAY HEADQUARTERS:**

***Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee***

**425 FOURTH AVE. (COR. 29TH ST), MU. 3-0180**

**AMERICAN LABOR PARTY** *Write, Phone or come in for a Collection Can*

**Ninth Assembly District**

**2542 Broadway, 95th St., N.Y.C.**

**Other key centers:**

**Manhattan**

Croatian Center  
236 West 40 St.

I.W.O., Lodge 500  
77 Fifth Avenue

Madison House  
226 Madison St.

Club Obrero Espanol  
1490 Madison Ave.

**Bronx**

Hunts Point YM-YWHA  
926 Simpson Street

American Labor Party  
683 Allerton Avenue

I.W.O. County Office  
1272 Hoe Avenue

Bronx House  
1637 Washington Ave.

**Brooklyn**

A.L.P. Progressive Comm.  
County Office  
44 Court Street

Brighton Beach Community Center  
3200 Coney Island Avenue

A.L.P. Progressive Comm.  
1554 Pitkin Avenue

A.L.P. Progressive Comm.  
1401 Kings Highway

Mr. TAVENNER. During the course of your testimony you have mentioned the fact that rank and file members of these various clubs were assigned to work in youth organizations.

Will you describe in detail for the committee the activity by the Communist Party in youth groups?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. When I became a member of the Jay-Smith Club in June of 1947, I found there was also a group of the American Youth For Democracy which Dorothy Bregman, of the Jay-Smith Club, had been assigned to supervise. Dorothy Bregman, however, was removed from this activity and Sophie Poulos, of the Jay-Smith

Club, and Teddy Schneiderman, who came from a party branch in Bensonhurst, were placed in supervision of the AYD group.

On July 6, 1948, at a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club, Teddy Schneiderman reported that this group had started out with just 5 members but now had about 40 comprised of both Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

He said that aside from social activity, the group was holding meetings at which educationals based on the principles of Marxism and Leninism, were being given.

He stated it was an excellent nucleus for a Communist youth club and that some of the young people in the group were already of age to join the Communist Party.

Teddy undertook the job of organizing some of the older boys into a youth club of the Communist Party which he accomplished by November 1948.

The American Youth for Democracy was replaced by the Labor Youth League, and the party's youth club operating in the area of the Jay-Smith Club conducted its activities in that name.

On July 26, 1949, while I was at the headquarters of the Jay-Smith Club at 270 Bergen Street, one of the members of the youth club came into the headquarters with a petition which he was using to canvass the neighborhood. This petition was issued in the name of the Paul Robeson Club of the Labor Youth League, 270 Bergen Street, asking for support of Paul Robeson and his progressive position.

On October 10, 1949, at an executive meeting of the Jay-Smith Club in the home of Charles Marshall, the club organizer, Al Henderson and Don, of the party's youth group, came in. Caryll Lasky, membership director and financial secretary of the Boro Hall section, instructed them to concentrate on registration activity to get the people out to register for elections.

The boys said that now that the youth group was being called the Labor Youth League, they had thought of getting a place for their meetings other than the headquarters of the Jay-Smith Club, so that there would be no connection with the Communist Party.

On November 9, 1950, as I was leaving the Gowanus housing project after attending a meeting of the club, I met Quince Marshall, member of the party's youth group, who stated he had attended a meeting, in the Gowanus housing project, of the party's youth club. He said that this club had had a preconvention discussion this night in preparation for the preconvention meeting to be held over the weekend, which was scheduled to culminate in the national convention of the Labor Youth League being held on the weekend of November 24.

On December 27, 1950, at a rally held by the Brooklyn Communist Party at the Aperia Manor in Brooklyn, to welcome the delegates to the party's 15th national convention, Selma Weiss, who was introduced as a member of the national board of the Labor Youth League, spoke to the rally. She attacked President Truman, the military leaders, and those educators who called for universal selective service and military training for all youth, and she attacked the Korean war as an imperialist venture in which American youth were losing their lives for no good reason.

She stated that the previous September she had been a delegate of the World Organization for Democratic Youth which had gone to



China to meet the youth organization there, and she had nothing but highest praise for the way the youth in Communist China had proclaimed their hatred for imperialist America, and their determination to fight the Americans should they venture near the Chinese border.

She concluded by hailing the Communist Party as the leader of youth and contended that with such leadership the Labor Youth League would struggle forward to the realization of socialism.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, to what extent was the Communist Party interested in the work of peace campaigns during the period you were a member of these particular units of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The Communist Party began calling for peace after the end of World War II. Their arguments were based on the explanation that the United States had emerged from the war as the greatest imperialist power in the world and was intent upon provoking a third world war, that the Soviet Union was being excluded from the orbit of the Big Powers, and that the knowledge of the atom bomb was being withheld from the Soviet.

They protested against the Truman doctrine, the Marshall Plan as imperialistic, against the North Atlantic Pact as designed for war, against the atom and hydrogen bombs, and against conscription and universal military training.

After the Stockholm Peace Conference in March 1950, this peace drive became an extremely concerted effort and after the outbreak of the Korean war became an even more intensive peace campaign on the part of the Communist Party.

In June of 1950 the party inaugurated a peace campaign to start on June 19, 1950, to run for 90 days. This peace campaign was conducted in the name of the New York Labor Conference for Peace, 80 East 11th Street, New York City, which was supposed to have been organized as a result of the Stockholm Peace Conference held in March 1950.

The Communist Party of New York State issued a "message" over the names of Robert Thompson, chairman, and William Norman, secretary, calling upon all party members to join this campaign.

Each comrade was given a pledge card, pledging that he would secure signatures to the peace petitions of the New York Labor Conference for Peace.

In Brooklyn the campaign was conducted in the name of the Brooklyn division of the New York Labor Conference for Peace, 160 Montague Street, and leaflets and petitions issued in that name were used by the Brooklyn Communist Party in this particular campaign.

Mr. TAVENNER. As those documents became pertinent to your testimony, will you make reference to them and we will decide which if any to put in evidence.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I spoke of a "message" which had been issued over the names of Robert Thompson, chairman, and William Norman, secretary, of the Communist Party of New York State.

It was a message in connection with participating in the peace drive and is entitled "A Message to All Communists" and is addressed "Dear Comrade."

There is one particular item which is of interest in connection with this "message." It says:

"Take a quota of 100 signatures as a minimum to the world peace appeal against the A-bomb. Reach this goal between today, June 19, and September 17. You

have 90 days to do it. Listen to the signers. Are they militant? Do they want to do something about it?

When you meet such a signer, you have a potential member of the Communist Party. Follow up such contacts."

Mr. TAVENNER. In other words, this peace appeal which was being conducted throughout the country was being used by the Communist Party as a means of recruiting persons into the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. It used this the same as it used all other types of canvassing. If any contacts who were sympathetic or friendly in any way were found, these contacts were supposed to be recontacted in the future with the attempt of finally drawing them into the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer that document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 33," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

#### BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 33

##### A MESSAGE TO ALL COMMUNISTS

DEAR COMRADE: Your branch leader has just given you a peace kit—a world peace appeal. This letter is the most urgent message we have ever sent you. In reading it, accept our warm personal handclasp and our expression of faith in your devotion to the tremendous job ahead.

Our party has joined with millions of Americans in the greatest drive ever undertaken by the peace-loving masses of the Nation: the fight for peace. It is the most important, the most sweeping struggle we have ever undertaken.

We are pledged, every man, woman and resource at our command, to the aspiration of the American working class, the great Negro masses, the farmers, women and youth of the Nation: there must be no war.

The highest form of patriotism is the struggle against war. The test of a patriot is his stand for peace. We Communists must prove as we have in the past, that we are the finest patriots, the most devoted fighters for peace.

For the first time in history there is an organized world peace movement. Led by the indomitable land of socialism, the U. S. S. R., nations and governments and hundreds of millions of masses are united against A-bomb annihilation and total destruction periled by the hell-bomb. In Europe, 14 million Germans, 7,000,000 Hungarians, 6,000,000 Bulgarians, 7,000,000 Rumanians have signed the Stockholm peace petition. In France, Italy, Czechoslovakia, England, Denmark, Africa, Asia, South America, Canada—the roar of the people shakes the war plotters.

We have a duty to the peoples of the world, comrade. Foster has said, "Peace hangs by a thread." We must make of that thread an unbreakable bond of peace. Peace hangs by a thread because the American imperialists seek ever more adventurous roads to war in the face of the growing peace movement. Thus, the danger of war has increased and the struggle for peace is more urgent.

The Soviet announcement that Wall Street no longer had a monopoly on the A-bomb did more than stun and panic the Truman-Dulles-McCarthy bipartisan conspirators. It set in motion the basis for a mighty peace drive for mobilizing all Americans who yearn for peace; it created the foundation for uniting all sections of the people to curb the atom-bombers.

No, war is not inevitable! We reject pessimism, fatalism as allies of the warmongers. We say peace is possible, that peace can be won!

The Dean of Canterbury said:

"One million signatures will annoy the warmongers. Ten million signatures will make them pause. A hundred million will wreck their plans and save the world."

Comrade, we must wreck their plans; we must help save our own country.

But time is short. Very short. The fate of our families, our country and our class demands that every Communist do at least the following things:

1. Take a quota of 100 signatures as a minimum to the world peace appeal against the A-bomb. Reach this goal between today, June 19, and September 17. You have 90 days to do it.

2. Get others to help you circulate this petition. Your family, friends, relatives, shopmates also want peace. This is the basis of building peace committees in your house, street, shop, and community.

3. Listen to the signers. Are they militant? Do they want to do something about it? Where you meet such a signer you have a potential member of the Communist Party. Follow up such contacts. Try to recruit at least 1 worker into our Party and get 2 subs. Eugene Dennis, our national secretary, told a May 2 "farewell" meeting that the greatest contribution made by Lenin and Stalin to humanity was the founding and building of the Communist Party. A stronger party is the best guaranty for peace.

4. Dennis is in jail because he is America's foremost voice for peace. He is the first party victim of the A-bombers. This peace struggle can help free Dennis; the greater the peace army, the sooner Dennis is released. Wherever possible, urge your signer, your organization, your friends, shopmates, neighbors to write Attorney General John McGrath, Washington, D. C., demanding Dennis be free!

5. Only one newspaper speaks for the working class, for the Negro people, for the oppressed victims of capitalist exploitation—the Daily Worker. Arrange with your branch leader to take copies with you.

6. Be an active club member. Your party branch is the hub of our party, the key to our drive. Be sure your dues are paid up through this month.

These six tasks tell the story of what every Communist can and must do—at the very least—to stop the atomic madmen, to save the peace.

90 days, comrade, 90 days to do a job!

Good luck and our warmest greetings.

Comradely,

COMMUNIST PARTY, NEW YORK STATE.

ROBERT THOMPSON, *Chairman*.

WILLIAM NORMAN, *Secretary*.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This is a photostatic copy of the pledge card which was issued to the members and it says:

I subscribe to the World Peace Appeal of the World Peace Committee, of Stockholm.

It was issued in the name of the New York Labor Conference for Peace, 80 East 11th Street.

This leaflet, issued in the name of the Brooklyn division of the New York Labor Conference for Peace, 160 Montague Street, was one of the pieces of literature we used in this campaign when we canvassed. This petition, also issued in the name of the Brooklyn division of the New York Labor Conference for Peace, was the petition to which we were to secure signatures.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer in evidence the three documents above referred to and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 34" for identification purposes only and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. While this particular drive was still going on, I was informed on June 27, 1950, by Bea Sacks, organizer of the Boro Hall section, that the peace petitions which had been in circulation for the past 2 weeks were to be called in on June 29, 1950, to be given to the New York Labor Conference for Peace at 160 Montague Street on that date, and that the press had been invited to be present for the announcement that 125,000 signatures had been collected. It was after that that we received these particular leaflets for distribution and on this leaflet it will be noted that it says "In Brooklyn alone 125,000 have signed for peace." This is also an appeal to sign the world peace appeal.

Mr. MOULDER. Is that document entitled "Sign For Peace."

Mrs. BLAUVELT. "Sign the World Peace Appeal."

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the document in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 35," for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. There was a report made to the Brooklyn Communist Party at a meeting held on July 11, 1950, at Webster Hall in New York City, and Charles Loman, organizational secretary of the Brooklyn Communist Party, reported that in Brooklyn 175,000 signatures had been secured to this date and it had been decided to carry on a very intensive campaign to secure 75,000 additional signatures within the next 10 days.

This peace drive did continue without abatement. There was a great deal of activity on it, distribution of leaflets, canvassing, the usual kind of activity that was conducted by the party in the peace campaigns.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you tell the committee what instructions you were given when approaching people to have them sign the peace petition?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The usual instructions were that we were supposed to point out the fact that the Korean war was an imperialistic war, that our boys were over there being killed for no good reason. It was done on a very popular appeal in most cases. In fact, there was one time when we were instructed how to meet the arguments of some people who said that it was Russia who wanted war, and we were told that the county was holding seminars on this particular subject and that the comrades would be informed just what arguments they would use when they approached the people on this subject.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were people advised that this was the Communist Party which was attempting to secure the petitions or was that fact concealed from them?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. It wasn't done in the name of the Communist Party itself. It was done, in the case in Brooklyn, in the name of the Brooklyn division of the New York Labor Conference for Peace. So it wasn't revealed so much that it was the Communists themselves who were doing it.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were you given any instructions as to what to do in this campaign when persons refused to sign the petitions?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I think probably I could interject some instances which would show just how the Communists, the comrades in particular with whom I had to deal, felt about the Korean war at just about this time.

Of course the war was followed with avid interest on the part of each comrade and all the setbacks of the United Nations forces were cheered. I had been at the home of Ruth Perloff on November 27, 1950, for the purpose of receiving directives from her for the conduct of party activities, and her husband, Jack Perloff, wanted to listen to the 11 o'clock news. Now the news at this time was to the effect that the Chinese Communists had been driven back, rather the Chinese Communists had driven back the U. N. forces in Korea. They were very pleased to hear that. They were displeased to hear that Warren Austin was scheduled to speak before the Red Chinese delegation at the U. N.



session the next day, and also displeased that the British attorney requested by the party leaders would be unable to take their case, because he was unable to get to New York by Monday.

Sophie Poulos, one of the members of the club who lived on the floor below, came up after the news broadcast, saying she had not listened but had heard from Tony, her husband, that it was wonderful, and Jack told her the only news that was wonderful was the news about Korea.

In connection with these peace ballots we received these at a county-wide membership meeting of the Brooklyn party that was held in the headquarters of the International Workers Order at 3200 Coney Island Avenue in Brooklyn on February 26, 1951. Charles Loman, the organizational secretary of the Brooklyn party, informed the comrades of the activities to be undertaken in the peace campaign.

First was the American Peace Crusade to Washington on March 15, for which the Brooklyn party had to raise a delegation of 500. Second was the taking of a peace poll in which the Brooklyn party had been given a quota of 100,000 ballots.

At this meeting we were given these ballots with the instructions that we were to canvass with them to secure votes.

When my particular club members were to canvass in the Gowanus housing project with this ballot, we were told that if we encountered any people who did not wish to sign the ballot but had voiced their sentiments one way or the other, that it would be perfectly all right for us to mark the ballot according to those sentiments inasmuch as this ballot-taking was for the purpose of determining the sentiment of the people.

These particular ballots did not have to be signed. So it was thought that this was a very excellent way of determining just what the people were thinking on the ballots.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer the photostatic copy of the short ballot in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit 36," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

#### BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 36

#### WHICH WAY DO YOU VOTE?

Are you for bringing our troops back from Korea and for making peace with China now? Yes ☐ No ☐

The Gallup Poll reports that 66 percent of the American people want to withdraw American troops from Korea. America's Peace Poll gives you the opportunity to register your opinion and make it count. Your ballot, with millions more, will be presented to President Truman and to your Congressmen.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. We were also given this longer ballot and anybody wishing to sign this long ballot could do so, and at the same time, were requested to place their name and address on the bottom of the ballot for future contact.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer a photostatic copy of the long ballot in evidence and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 37," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)





Now in line with this she announced that the party was preparing a leaflet which would be off the presses by midnight and that a bundle would be delivered to her by 2 a. m. so that they would be available for distribution by the comrades before they went to work in the morning.

It was decided that the club should conduct both a subway distribution and a distribution throughout the Gowanus housing project.

This leaflet she referred to turned out to be a reprint of the Daily Worker editorial on MacArthur, the Korean war, and peace. I participated in the subway distribution of the leaflets on the morning of April 12, 1951.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I offer in evidence the reprint from the Daily Worker of an article entitled "MacArthur, the Korean War and Peace," and ask that it be marked Blauvelt exhibit No. 38 for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Of course this peace drive was still going on very unabatedly and on May 26, the Brooklyn Communist Party held a women's peace conference at 3200 Coney Island Avenue.

Now the importance placed upon this meeting can be seen by the rank of the functionaries present such as Ben Davis, chairman of the Brooklyn Communist Party; Norman Schrank, of the Kings County committee; Richard Jonson, organizer of the Williamsburg section, and member of the county committee; Billy Frumpkin, secretary of the women's commission of the Brooklyn Communist Party; Bertha Lowitt, of the women's commission of the Brooklyn Communist Party, Herb Gerwitz, regional director of the Waterfront section; Charles Loman, organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section; Mae Miller of the women's committee of the national board of National Communist Party and State committee of the New York State Communist Party.

Bertha Lowitt stated the purpose of the conference was to point out the role Communist women must play in organizing all women in the movement for peace.

The goal of this particular peace campaign, she said, was the establishment of a women's peace center in Brooklyn. She stated it was important to get started on the formation of peace committees so that by June 28 the women in Brooklyn would be organized well enough to send 200 delegates to the peace convention being held by the American Peace Crusade in Chicago from June 28 to June 30.

Now, in connection with this peace crusade to Chicago we were given these leaflets; one was a call for peace and freedom, American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace, Chicago, June 29 to July 1, 1951.

Also in connection with this peace crusade, we were given petitions for the American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace in Chicago to be held on June 29 to July 1, 1951, issued by the American Peace Crusade of 1186 Broadway, New York City.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I desire to offer in evidence the first mentioned document, a photostatic copy of American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace, Chicago, June 29 to July 1, 1951, and ask it be marked Blauvelt "Exhibit No. 39"; that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.  
(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 39

A CALL FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM—AMERICAN PEOPLE'S CONGRESS AND EXPOSITION  
FOR PEACE, CHICAGO, JUNE 29—JULY 1, 1951

Thousands of valiant sons of Negro citizens—the shock troops and labor battallions of a Jim Crow army—are among the legions of dead and wounded Americans and Koreans. Hundreds have been court-martialed to death and imprisonment by Gen. Jim Crow.

At home the hand of Jim Crow is raised against every Negro. Workingmen like the seven men of Martinsville and Willie McGee lie dead. An unearned grave is being prepared for the Trenton Six. Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram and her two valiant young sons sit imprisoned for life. The great voice of liberty, Paul Robeson, is denied the press, the radio and the right to travel abroad. The great American statesman and leader of his people, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, is arrested and faces imprisonment after half a century of fighting for peace and freedom. Wherever one turns, the flower of Negro womanhood and manhood is violated.

Men in high office tell us that American blood and bayonets will bring liberty to Korea and Asia, but here at home they fill the courtrooms and prisons and deathhouses with an endless procession of Negro men, women and children on whose freedom and lives they trample.

Men in high office tell us that we must fight for freedom thousands of miles away, but in the southern farmlands and northern cities the children of sojourner Truth and Frederick Douglass are driven into ghettos; they are refused equal opportunity for work; they are denied the right to learn what they desire to know, to advance to a better wage, to vote their ticket and creed, to pay their tax with an expectation of some return, to stand before the bar of justice the equal of any and all, to enjoy those rights which all should be forced to respect.

The sword wielded by Gen. Jim Crow cannot bring freedom to anyone—colored or white—here or abroad.

There can be no freedom for the Negro in wars against the colored citizens of other nations—for such wars encourage the aggressions of men of prejudice. There can be no peace for the Negro where bigotry guides the affairs of nations. Peace and freedom must become pillars upon which the life and liberty of all is held equally sacred.

We believe that a way to peace can be found. We know it must be found.

An end to the tragic horror in Korea . . . the return of our troops from Korea to work together with all for true equality . . . recognition of the nations of Asia and all the world as free and equal . . . negotiations and settlement among the Big Five . . . an economy for peace and useful construction, not a mad armaments race . . . this is the way to peace.

We are calling an American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace in Chicago, Ill., on June 29, 30, and July 1. We urge that this call find echo and answer in all our churches and fraternities and gatherings, so that our voice is heard in many numbers and deeds at this great congress. Let us take counsel there together with men and women of all religions and races and creeds who want to bring peace and freedom to these United States and to the world.—American Peace Crusade, 1186 Broadway, New York 1, N. Y.

PROGRAM (TENTATIVE)

FRIDAY, JUNE 29

Morning:

Registration

Afternoon:

Roundtable sessions:

Our Country's Foreign Policy

Colonialism and War

War and the Negro Citizen

The Right to Speak for Peace

Militarization, Conscription and UMT

Standards of Living and the War Budget

Educating our Children—for War or Peace?

(other sessions to be announced)

Sponsors meeting

**PROGRAM—Continued**

**Evening:**

Public Peace Rally and Pageant

SATURDAY, JUNE 30

**Morning and Afternoon:**

General Assembly:

Election of Committees

Workshops on "The Path to Peace":

Labor-Women-Youth-Farmers-Veterans-Nationality Groups

Special problems of these groups relating to war preparations;

Discrimination against the Negro people in a war atmosphere; the need for Negro and white working together for peace.

Techniques in working for peace:

State Delegation Meetings.

**Evening:**

Dance and Cultural Festival.

SUNDAY, JULY, 1

**Morning and Early Afternoon:**

Interfaith Devotional Service

Plenary Session

Report of Credentials Committee

Reports from Round Table and Workshop Sessions

Adoption of program and resolutions

Election of Officers.

**Afternoon:**

Outdoor Sports Meet and Recreational Events

Delegates Tour of Chicago

**SPONSORS (PARTIAL LIST)**

Bishop Cameron C. Alleyne, Philadelphia, Pa.

Mrs. Charlotta A. Bass, Los Angeles, Calif.

Hon. Elmer Benson, Appleton, Minn.

Rabbi Abraham J. Bick, New York, N. Y.

Rev. J. E. Bonds, Washington, D. C.

Prof. G. Murray Branch, Atlanta, Ga.

Harry Bridges, San Francisco, Calif.

Rev. T. E. Brown, S. T. D., D.D., Chicago, Ill.

Hugh Bryson, San Francisco, Calif.

Dr. A. J. Carlson, Chicago, Ill.

Miss Alice Childress, New York, N. Y.

Alvin B. Christman, Centerport, Pa.

Miss Marvel Cooke, New York, N. Y.

Dr. Abraham Cronbach, Cincinnati, Ohio

Rev. Mark A. Dawber, Long Beach, N. Y.

Ernest DeMaio, Chicago, Ill.

Hon. Earl B. Dickerson, Chicago, Ill.

Dr. James A. Dombrowski, New Orleans, La.

Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, New York, N. Y.

Mrs. Mayme Duniyan, Detroit, Mich.

Arnaud d'Usseau, New York, N. Y.

Rev. Joseph M. Evans, Chicago, Ill.

Prof. Henry Pratt Fairchild, New York, N. Y.

Fyke Farmer, Nashville, Tenn.

Howard Fast, New York, N. Y.

Rev. G. Linwood Fauntleroy, Oakland, Calif.

Dr. Arthur Huff Fauset, Philadelphia, Pa.

Abram Flaxer, New York, N. Y.

Rev. Edward A. Freeman, Kansas City, Kans.

Rev. Stephen Fritchman, Glendale, Calif.

Rabbi Robert E. Goldberg, Hamden, Conn.

## SPONSORS—Continued

Carlton B. Goodlett, M. D., San Francisco, Calif.  
 Uta Hagen, New York, N. Y.  
 William Harrison, Boston, Mass.  
 Rev. Charles A. Hill, Detroit, Mich.  
 Rev. P. J. Houston, Kansas City, Kans.  
 Hon. Charles P. Howard, Des Moines, Iowa  
 Rev. Kenneth de P. Hughes, Cambridge, Mass.  
 Karly Larsen, Seattle, Wash.  
 Dr. Robert Morss Lovett, Lake Zurich, Ill.  
 Larkin Marshall, Macon, Ga.  
 David McCanns, New York, N. Y.  
 W. A. McGirt, Jr., Winston-Salem, N. C.  
 Howard McGuire, Chicago, Ill.  
 Bishop Walter A. Mitchell, Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.  
 Prof. Philip Morrison, Ithaca, N. Y.  
 Rt. Rev. Arthur W. Moulton, Salt Lake City, Utah  
 Thomas Ogilvie, Atlantic City, N. J.  
 Dr. Clementina J. Paolone, New York, N. Y.  
 Dr. Linus Pauling, Pasadena, Calif.  
 Willard B. Ransom, Indianapolis, Ind.  
 Rev. William N. Reid, Chicago, Ill.  
 Prof. Harry Roberts, Ettick, Va.  
 Mrs. Eslanda Goode Robeson, Enfield, Conn.  
 Paul Robeson, New York, N. Y.  
 Prof. Antonio Rubio, Chicago, Ill.  
 John Rudder, Washington, D. C.  
 Mrs. Andrew W. Simkins, Columbia, S. C.  
 Thomas L. Slater, Chicago, Ill.  
 Prof. Louise Pettibone Smith, Wellesley, Mass.  
 Dr. P. A. Sorokin, Cambridge, Mass.  
 Rev. Dr. Frederick K. Stamm, Plumsteadville, Pa.  
 Fred W. Stover, Hampton, Iowa  
 Maurice Travis, Denver, Colo.  
 Rev. Charles E. Tyler, Omaha, Nebr.  
 Sam Wanamaker, New York, N. Y.  
 Hon. James H. Wolfe, Salt Lake City, Utah

## DELEGATES REGISTRARION ENTRY

Name-----

Address-----

Organization or Group-----

☐ Official Delegate    ☐ Observer    ☐ Individual    ☐ \$2 Registration fee  
 enclosed. American Peace Crusade, 1186 Broadway, New York 1, N. Y.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In connection with this American peace crusade we did a good deal of canvassing. Our purpose was to see if we could get someone in the Gowanus tenants council in which my club was active and also someone from the Gowanus housing project to attend as a delegate.

We were not too successful because the expense of the trip was rather high. However, Charles Marshall of my section did attend this congress as a delegate.

Mr. SCHERER. What year did this take place?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. This is in 1951. That is about the extent of my participation in the Communist Party's peace campaign.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Eugene Dennis was tried and convicted on a contempt charge, contempt of Congress charge. Were any campaigns conducted by your club with respect to that matter?



Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. My club as well as all of the other clubs in the party were instructed to indulge in a letter-writing campaign and this persisted I think almost the entire time Dennis was in prison.

Mr. SCHERER. For the benefit of the Members of the House now present who were not present at previous hearings I think we should advise them that this witness, Mrs. Blauvelt, is a member of the New York Police Department and for a number of years was assigned by the department as undercover agent in the Communist Party in the New York area.

She has done a marvelous job here during the past week in relating her experiences within the Communist Party and Communist-front groups.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Also in addition to conducting a letter-writing campaign, which was directed to both the President and to the Attorney General, meetings were held and distribution of leaflets in connection with the protest against Dennis' imprisonment was constantly conducted.

I think that there isn't very much use in going into too much detail on this because that activity covered the same pattern as all of the other protest activities on the part of the Communist Party in connection with holding letter-writing campaigns and the distribution of leaflets.

Mr. TAVENNER. It is difficult to understand how there was time left for any other activities of your groups after hearing your testimony so far, but you have called to my attention a different class of activity which has been very extensive and that is one which the Congressmen hear a great deal about. That is the bringing of pressure to bear by one method or another on different groups, even including Members of Congress, in connection with matters in which the Communist Party has some particular stake or for some reason is especially interested. I call them pressure campaigns.

Now you have prepared a list, I believe, of instances in which your groups of the Communist Party were directed to conduct these so-called pressure campaigns.

Mr. SCHERER. I might say, Mr. Counsel, those pressure campaigns weren't confined to the Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. I suppose every Member of Congress has had an experience with that.

But we are interested to know just what types of campaign the Communist Party thought sufficiently important to direct its activities in this connection.

I ask you to give us the dates of these activities, the character of the campaigns you were directed to conduct, and any documentary evidence you can furnish.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. As you have indicated, the Communists did indulge to a very great extent in these pressure campaigns hoping to bring some action through a barrage of thousands of letters, postcards, telegrams, and petitions.

There were any number of them from the time that I entered the party until I was expelled. However, this particular list is really only a partial list and has been culled from reports. It is not complete by any manner of means.

For instance :

On March 4, 1943, I received postcards which were to be sent to Mr. Roosevelt for the liberation of Spanish prisoners in connection with the Spanish Civil War.

On March 16, 1943, we were directed to send telegrams to Albany protesting the extradition of a Negro by the name of Burrows. We were to send letters to Hobbs, Curtis, and Austin protesting the Wadsworth and Johnson Acts as antilabor.

March 17, 1943, we were told to send telegrams to the President urging a second front.

On March 25, 1943, we were told to send letters to Senator Meade not to speak at an Alter-Ehrlich meeting.

Mr. MOULDER. From whom did you receive these directives?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. These directives were received either from the executive members of the club who had received them from the section or else I, in an executive capacity, had received the directives from the executive members of the section to transmit to the members of the club.

Mr. MOULDER. Do you know from where or from whom the directives emanated and who decided the policy?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The usual emanation was from the county committee down to the section committee and then down to the executive committee of the branches, so it was not simply a matter of initiative on the part of the comrades within the clubs themselves, but was done upon the orders of the Communist Party from higher levels.

Mr. SCHERER. Is it possible that it may have originated at a higher level than county level?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; I do not wish to exclude that fact at all because usually when I speak of these directives I am confining myself simply to the area in which I was active. It is known that all directives did come down from the highest body and then to the lower body until they finally reached the branch level and were actually participated in by the rank and file. [Reading:]

On April 13, 1943, we were told to send letters to Senators Wagner and Meade to stand by the veto of the Bankhead bill, and also to the Congressmen to vote against the Hobbs bill.

On May 5, 1943, we were told to send letters to Congressman Bloom to support the Dickstein bill, and in connection with this particular activity we were given petitions addressed to the Honorable Sol Bloom.

This petition was in the name of the Ninth A. D. Club of the Communist Party.

On May 11, 1943, we were instructed to send letters to Congressman Bloom to support the anti-poll-tax bill, and to send telegrams and letters to Senator Wagner to vote against the Ruml tax plan.

Mr. MOULDER. The committee will stand in recess for approximately 20 minutes.

(Brief recess.)

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed, please.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

May 25, 1943, letters to Congressman Burch to support Dickstein-Lynch bill barring anti-Semitic literature from the mails and letters for the Pepper, Tolan, Kilgore bill.

July 6, 1943, letters to Congressmen to support the Dickstein-Lynch bill.

May 31, 1943, letters to LaGuardia and board of estimate to bar Jim-Crowism in housing projects.

October 3, 1944, letters to PM to protest articles appearing in that paper.

On December 12, 1944, letters to Stettinius, advising he had the Flatbush Club's support.

February 20, 1945, telegrams to Albany, urging passage of the Ives-Quinn antidiscrimination bill.

April 3, 1945, letters to Sabath and Delaney to vote on H. R. 2232; to Chavez to oppose the Taft bill; and to Congressmen to get the anti-poll-tax bill House Resolution 7 on the floor and to support bill S. 101.

April 17, 1945, individual letters and telegrams to President Truman, advising he had the support of the Flatbush Club.

April 25, 1945, postals, letters and telegrams to Congressmen to support the World Organization, U. N.

July 10, 1945, leaflets on the Fair Employment Practices Committee were distributed and members were to write to Congressmen to continue the FEPC, and in that connection I have a leaflet issued by the Communist Political Association of New York State.

August 7, 1945, telegrams and letters to Senators Wagner and Meade to remove Senator Bilbo.

On September 4, 1945, petitions to Senators Wagner and Meade re Senator Bilbo, and in that connection I have petition issued by the Flatbush Club of the Communist Party.

November 27, 1945, telegrams to the United Auto Workers in support of their strike. Cards also were to be sent to the American Tobacco Co. in connection with this strike in protest thereof.

Letters were to be sent to the War Labor Board concerning strikes in general.

February 26, 1946, telegrams to Mary Dillon to oust May Quinn.

March 21, 1946, petitions to President Truman for peace, and also petitions to him protesting Churchill's speeches.

May 14, 1946, telegrams to Senator Wagner concerning the OPA.

May 21, 1946, telephone calls to NBC protesting Clare Booth Luce's appearance on the American Forum of the Air, and letters also were to be sent to NBC on the same subject matter.

May 28, 1946, telegrams to Senators Wagner and Meade against the Truman bill. In connection with that I have a throwaway issued by the New York State Committee of the Communist Party.

June 24, 1946, telegram on the OPA, and in connection with that I have an organization letter for all club executives which was issued by the organizational department of the Flatbush section of the Communist Party, giving directives regarding sending of telegrams and activity on the OPA.

July 2, 1946, solicitation of signatures and funds for telegrams to be sent to Congressmen urging retention of OPA.

August 21, 1946, petitions to the U. N. on behalf of 13 million oppressed Negro citizens in the United States of America, which was issued by the National Negro Congress.

April 22, 1947, letters to Senators Wagner and Ives in protest against the Hartley bill.

April 20, 1947, letters to the Public Service Commission to protest against gas rates.

August 5, 1947, nuisance telephone calls to the Brooklyn Trust Co. during strike.

August 6, 1947, telegrams to President Truman on Palestine.

December 8, 1947, postal cards to be sent in protest of conscription.

December 16, 1947, petitions on Simon W. Gerson calling for his seating in the city council in the place of the late Peter V. Cacchione, issued by the Citizens Committee To Defend Representative Government, and I have the petition in connection with this activity.

February 24, 1948, letters to the Attorney General protesting deportation action against Claudia Jones and Ferdinand Smith.

March 1, 1948, petitions to W. R. Burleigh of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People in Americus, Ga.; Circuit Judge Harper, Ellaville, Ga.; Governor Thompson, Atlanta, Ga.; and President Truman re Mrs. Rosa Lee Ingram.

On March 2, 1948, we had petitions soliciting collections in connection with this case.

March 1, 1948, telegrams to Attorney General Clark for the release of Eisler, Williamson, Smith and Doyle.

March 2, 1948, postal cards, letters, petitions to Attorney General Tom Clark for release of the above-mentioned four at Ellis Island.

March 5, 1948, petitions to the Governor of Georgia and to President Truman re the Rosa Lee Ingram case.

March 8 and March 16, 1948, more petitions on the Ingram case.

November 30, 1948, letters to Attorney General Clark against indictment of the Communist Party's 12 leaders.

December 6, 1948, petition in protest of the lynching of Robert Mallard in Lyons, Ga.

December 20, 1948, letters to Attorney General Clark to dismiss indictment of the party leaders.

January 25, 1949, telegrams to District Attorney McDonald on the Hardison case.

February 7, 1949, telegrams to Judge Medina to protest the Federal grand jury system. In this connection comrades were to get five others also to send telegrams. Telegrams were also to be sent to the district attorney on the Hardison case.

February 20, 1949, telegrams in protest of the trial of the Communist Party's 12 leaders.

March 16, 1949, telegrams to the State assembly to protest repressive legislation.

On March 22, 1949, the same.

April 20, 1949, petitions urging discontinuance of the deportation proceedings against Harisiades and Taffler.

April 6, 1949, telegrams to Judge Medina protesting his handling of the trial of the party's 12 leaders.

June 7, 1949, letters to Judge Medina to rescind the sentences of Gates, Winston and Hall.

June 14, 1949, telegrams to O'Dwyer, mayor of New York City, protesting the ban on pickets at Ryan's office of the International Longshoremen's Association.

July 25, 1949, letters to Albany protesting the Mundt bill; letters to Judge Medina protesting the trial of the Communist Party's 12 leaders.

July 26, 1949, letters to Senator McCarran in protest against the Mundt-Nixon bill; letters to Judge Medina demanding release of the three leaders in jail.

September 6, 1949, letters to President Truman and Governor Dewey re the Peekskill incident.

January 19, 1950, telegrams to President Truman protesting the issuance of any injunction by Denham of the National Labor Relations Board in connection with the United Mine Workers.

March 6, 1950, letters to Senators Lehman and Ives protesting Mundt-Nixon bill.

March 7, 1950, letters to Senators Lehman, Ives, and Lucas protesting the Mundt-Nixon bill, and in connection with this I have a leaflet issued by the Communist Party of Boro Hall section.

March 10, 1950, telegrams to these same three persons were prepared for canvassing.

March 14, 1950, letters to mass organizations and to names on directory of registered voters to protest the H-bomb.

March 22, 1950, petitions in the name of the Trade Union Council protesting the Mundt-Nixon bill.

May 9, 1950, letters to the Attorney General to release Dennis.

May 12, 1950, letters to President Truman to release Dennis.

In connection with this I have a throwaway issued by the Boro Hall section of the Communist Party.

June 15, 1950, letters to Governor Wright of Mississippi urging release of Willie McGee, and to Governor Battle of Virginia urging release of the Martinsville seven.

July 5, 1950, letters to Senators Lucas, Lehman, and Ives against Mundt bill.

July 11, 1950, letters to President Truman requesting amnesty for Dennis.

August 28, 1950, telegrams to President Truman demanding continuance of bail for the party's leaders, and telegrams to Senators Ives, Lehman, and Lucas protesting the Mundt-Nixon and McCarran bills.

August 29, 1950, telegrams and letters to the Attorney General and to the Senators regarding bail for the party's leaders.

September 5, 1950, telegrams to Washington regarding bail for the party leaders and letters to Congressmen to protest anti-Communist bills.

December 4, 1950, telegrams to President Truman to stop the war in Korea and ban the use of the A-bomb.

December 18, 1950, cards to President Truman in the peace campaign.

In connection with both of these, I have a leaflet issued by the New York State Communist Party which says, "No new war; prevent world war three."

January 2, 1951, letters to Mayor Impellitteri on John Derrick.



January 22, 1951, a National Labor Conference petition to President Truman demanding prevention of a wage freeze and demanding price rollbacks and rent control.

January 30, 1951, telegrams demanding stay of execution of the Martinsville seven.

February 19, 1951, postcards to Mayor Impellitteri on the Derrick case; to President Truman on the case of Lieutenant Leon Gilbert; to Governor Wright on Willie McGee.

March 19, 1951, telegrams to the city council; to Councilman Sharkey, Isaacs, Brown; mayor; State legislature on McGee.

April 4, 1951, letters to President Truman, and telegrams to President Truman and to Governor Wright demanding freedom for McGee.

May 4, 1951, more telegrams to President Truman on McGee.

May 7, 1951, telegrams to Justice Black to halt the execution of McGee and telephone calls to be made to CBS to release news in their news reports on McGee.

May 22, 1951, letters to President Truman to adopt the Johnson resolution to end the war in Korea.

June 28, letters to President Truman for a cease-fire, and in connection therewith I have this particular petition.

Also, on that same date, letters to President Truman in protest of the arrest of the party's leaders. These were the 17 second-string leaders.

July 11, 1951, letters to President Truman for cease-fire and withdrawal of the troops from Korea.

August 16, 1951, telegrams and letters to Attorney General McGrath demanding that there be no prosecution of DuBois, head of the Peace Information Center.

August 29, 1951, letters to President Truman for cease-fire in Korea and again on September 5, 1951, the same.

I would like to point out that just because these instructions are listed probably only once does not mean just a single effort was made on that day. It was a continuous process in most cases.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I desire to offer in evidence the documents identified by the witness in her description of pressure campaigns to be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 40," for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. You have told us, Mrs. Blauvelt, that these campaigns to which you have referred by no means constituted a complete list of such campaigns. I ask you to look through your material and state whether you have throwaways or other documentary evidence relating to any other campaigns.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, I have. [Reading:]

A postal card addressed to President Harry S. Truman, which I received on November 11, 1945, and it was in connection with urging him to get the boys home from China by Christmas. This was in connection with the China campaign they were conducting at that time.

There is also a throwaway, protesting the unjust mine verdict, issued by the New York State Communist Party, and protests were to be sent to Judge T. Alan Goldsborough and to President Truman. This was in December 1946.

I have a petition, which I received on February 25, 1947, addressed to Senators Wagner and Ives in connection with so-called antilabor bills, issued by the Communist Party of New York State.

A postal card to President Truman calling for the disbanding of the House Un-American Activities Committee, which I received October 14, 1947.

A postal card to Joseph Martin of the House of Representatives in connection also with the House Un-American Activities Committee and the Mundt bill.

This one was issued in the name of the Civil Rights Congress, but the comrades were instructed to send these out at a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club held May 11, 1948.



I have a leaflet issued by the Communist Party of New York State on the North Atlantic Pact, and it calls for letters to Senators Wagner and Ives and to President Truman to defeat the North Atlantic Pact.

I have a reprint I received June 20, 1949, issued by the New York State committee of the Communist Party in connection with the jailing of the three Communist leaders at that time.

I have a leaflet which I received on May 16, 1949, on the subject of rents with the instructions that President Harry S. Truman be written to with the demand that a real rent-control law be passed.

I have another throwaway issued by the New York State Communist Party in connection with support for the coal miners, telegrams to be sent to President Truman in connection with that case.

I have a throwaway issued by the Neighborhood Committee for the Defense of Peter Harisiades and Anna Taffler, action to be taken in their deportation case by sending letters to Attorney General Tom Clark protesting their deportation.

I mentioned once before that I had a petition in connection with the Martinsville seven. I have this petition which I received on January 26, 1951, issued by the Committee to Organize the Downtown Brooklyn Chapter of the Civil Rights Congress.

Mr. SCHIERER. May I interrupt?

As I indicated, Mrs. Blauvelt, in my off-the-record statement, I think your testimony has been of tremendous value to this committee and I am only sorry that other commitments this week on other committees kept me from hearing all of it.

I know that other members of the committee during this week have had other commitments that prevented them from hearing all of your testimony. But as I suggested, I think that your testimony or at least part of it, must be repeated in public after a more complete investigation is done, particularly with respect to the subject matter about which you testified, because it really is the first time, as I understand it, the committee has had such cogent evidence with respect to actual activity of the local Community clubs. Your testimony does bring out that they were a powerful influence in promoting the Communist conspiracy and Communist objectives.

I think you have presented your testimony intelligently and certainly fully and comprehensively and the New York City Police Department is to be congratulated on having such a fine member as yourself as part of its organization. It is also to be congratulated on its foresight a few years ago in placing you in a position where you could get this information which was not only valuable to the New York Police Department but I am sure now valuable to this committee, the Congress and the Government.

Of course the committee wants to thank you for your help and cooperation and wants to solicit your future help and cooperation if we go forward with the plan I suggested.

Again I have to testify myself before another committee of this Congress, and I am going to be compelled to leave. It was really a pleasure to listen to you.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Thank you, sir.

I have here a leaflet in connection with a People's Lobby to Washington, D. C., on June 8, 1949, being conducted in the name of the Kings County Committee of the American Labor Party. There was a tremendous amount of work done by the Boro Hall section and the Jay-Smith Club in connection with this lobby, and we were given petitions with which to canvass the neighborhood in an attempt to secure contributions to send delegates to this lobby, and also to solicit members of the community to attend the lobby as delegates of the community. We were very successful in this venture.

I did speak before about postal cards being sent to President Truman in December 1950. The purpose of these postal cards was to flood him with mail at Christmas calling for peace. It was presented in a very innocuous fashion but was still designed to be a pressure campaign. There was also another postal card to President Truman issued in the name of the American Women for Peace, 1186 Broadway, which the comrades were given on January 2, 1951, to send out in connection with fighting in Korea.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer in evidence the above referred to documents which have been identified by the witness in further describing the pressure campaigns as "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 41," for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

We will recess until 1:30.

(Whereupon, at 12:05 p. m. the committee was recessed, to reconvene at 1:30 p. m. the same day.)

#### AFTERNOON SESSION, MAY 6, 1955

Committee members present: Representatives Morgan M. Moulder, chairman (presiding), James B. Frazier, Jr., Edwin E. Willis, and Harold H. Velde.

Mr. MOULDER. Proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, to what extent did the Communist Party sections with which you were affiliated sponsor the Jefferson School of Social Science.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I would say to a very great extent. I probably could give you a listing of a number of occasions on which the Jefferson School was discussed but I think it would suffice to say that at every time a new semester started at the Jefferson School the members were instructed to attend classes and many times we would actually be given the catalogs of the Jefferson School to peruse and to make our selections as to just which courses we would like to have.

Not only at the opening of each semester but at any time when there were any special courses which were worthy of consideration, we might be given some leaflets on that subject-matter and the Communist Party itself did print material in connection with the Jefferson School.

One interesting incident occurred when I was a member of the Jay-Smith Club, which happened on December 13, 1948, at an executive committee meeting of the Jay-Smith Club which was held in the home of Charles Marshall.

Bea Sacks, organizer of the Boro Hall section, instructed that the comrades be urged to go to the Jefferson School where they could take any course they desired and that 2 members from the club attend the Marxist Institute connected with the Jefferson School where they would be given a year's course on a specific Marxist subject.

They would have to first be interviewed for this course by a school board which would make its recommendations.

Now the cost of this course was \$40 and if a comrade could not afford to pay the entire amount the section would pay one-third and the club could pay one-third.

I felt that was rather an interesting manner of trying to get the members to get not only into the Jefferson School itself but into the

Marxist Institute of the Jefferson School, which offered advanced courses in Marxism and Leninism.

I do not know if there is much purpose in going into the detail of the number of announcements made but it was constant.

Mr. TAVENNER. I hand you the three documents relating to the study of Marxism which I ask you to briefly describe.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

There is one entitled: Theory Makes You Strong. This particular leaflet was issued in the name of the Jefferson School of Social Science, but it was given to us at one of the club meetings to bring to our attention that we should attend the Jefferson School.

Another leaflet entitled: Armed With Theory, the Working Class Can Change the World.

This leaflet lists some of the classes of particular interest. This also was given to us at one of the club meetings for study and consideration as to just which courses we would like to take.

Another entitled: One Night a Week for Marxist Study at the Jefferson School.

I feel this leaflet is of particular interest because it was issued by the New York State Committee of the Communist Party and it says that every Communist should give one night a week for Marxist study and this Marxist study, the leaflet urges, should be taken at the Jefferson School of Social Science.

It also says that for county, section, and club leaders it is recommended that the Institute of Marxist Studies be attended.

I think that this would show the alliance between the two. This particular leaflet was for the winter term of 1951.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer these three documents in evidence and ask that they be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 42" for identification purposes only, and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. In the earlier part of your testimony you gave us the names of the members of the Flatbush section of the Communist Party and those with whom you came in contact when attending official meetings of the Flatbush section.

From 1947 to 1951 did you have an opportunity to meet similarly members of the Boro Hall section of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; I did. In the capacity of the Jay-Smith Clubs' financial secretary and also at the times I was active as an organizer or its membership director I had occasion to attend meetings on a section level, and I did become acquainted with many of the other members of the section though they were not in my club; they were in other clubs within the section, the Boro Hall section of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please identify those persons?

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading) :

There was Mickey Antell, who was at one time, organizer of the Walt Whitman Club and who became the organizer of the Longshore Club. He was also a member of the section staff at one time of the Boro Hall section.

There was Ad Badner, who for a time was educational director of the Boro Hall section but who moved to 405 Sycamore Road, Santa Monica, Calif. He addressed an executive committee meeting of the Jay-Smith Club on the subject of the press on December 6, 1948.

Judith Badner, she had been assigned by the Boro Hall section to work on the Hardison case and the organization of a chapter of the Civil Rights Congress. She also moved to 405 Sycamore Road, Santa Monica, Calif.

I met Selma Barban, 85 Louisa Street, who was a member of the 12th A. D. section, and who attended the same regional training class I attended in 1950.

I met Joseph Bell, who was instructor of that regional training class.

I knew Bertha Bregman, 142 Henry Street. She was an executive member of the Orange Street Club and also became a member of the Riverside Club. She attended the county training class which I attended in 1948.

Evelyn Brenner, 665 East Seventh Street. She was a member of the 12th A. D. section and attended the same regional training class I attended.

Jesus Colon. He was a member of the La Pasionaria Club, the Puerto Rican Club, in the Boro Hall section. He was a leader of the Puerto Rican International Workers Order and in 1951 had been charged with contempt as a member of the National Board of the IWO.

Eunice Cooper, 79 Poplar Street. She was membership director of the Boro Hall section at the time that I entered the section and was granted a leave of absence in November 1947 for ill health.

Ben Davis. He was a member of the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party, was regional director of the waterfront region, instructed classes at the regional training class which I attended, and was elected as one of the New York State officers of the Communist Party at the State convention held in December 1950.

Gerry Davis was a member of the section, and I saw her at one of the section meetings on March 7, 1950.

Margery de Leon, 79 Poplar Street. She was treasurer of the Boro Hall section. She became membership director of the Boro Hall section.

She was once a member of the Orange Street Club and then of the Buck Lazar Club. She worked for the United Jewish Appeal. She said she had worked for Russian war relief and in June of 1950 stated that she worked for the Peace Information Center.

Carlos Dore, 207 Kingsboro Second Walk, Kingsboro housing project in Brooklyn. He was at one time organizer of the La Pasionaria Club, the Puerto Rican Club, in the Boro Hall section.

Virginia Dore, 207 Kingsboro Second Walk. She was a member of the La Pasionaria Club, and at an area committee meeting which was held in her home on May 8, 1951; she attended the latter part of it, having come home after attending a class which was held at the section.

Bob Ehrlich. He was the organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section for a while. He was a member of the Walt Whitman Club in the Fort Greene housing project. I understand that he was the circulation manager of the German-American.

Eduard Eisinger, also known as Eddie, at one time was treasurer of the Boro Hall section. He was a member of the industrial unit in the Boro Hall section and said he was a member of the transport workers' union and that he worked for the Brooklyn Union Gas Co. I believe his address was 1260 Myrtle Avenue.

Al Escobitz (Itzcovitz). That is a strictly phonetic spelling. I could never determine whether that was the correct pronunciation. He was a member of the industrial unit in the Boro Hall section. He attended the regional training class which I attended, stated that he lived at Empire Boulevard and Flatbush Avenue and worked at the Concord Restaurant, which I believe was supposed to have been in that neighborhood.

Jack Fine was for a while the organizer of the Boro Hall section; he conducted a class at the Jay-Smith Club, and he eventually moved to Merrick, Long Island.

Bernie Frank was a member of the county cadre training committee. He was instructor of the country training class which I attended in 1948 and which Charles Marshall attended in 1949.

He stated he had been a member of the educational union which was supposed to be underground, and that he had gone to Moscow and had been in every May Day parade since 1934.

Ily Friedman, 304 East Fifth Street, Brooklyn. He was membership director and treasurer of the industrial unit in the Boro Hall section.

Max Frishkoff, 142 Henry Street. While he was in Brooklyn he had a watch repair business at 147 Montague Street. He moved to California in the spring of 1949. He had been a member of the Orange Street Club and meetings of membership directors and financial secretaries were held in his home.

There was a person by the name of Gabin or Gavin whose first name I was unable to determine. He was, however, the regional membership director who interviewed the members of the party who had been selected to attend the regional training class in 1950.



Herb Gerwitz or Gurwitz. Regional director of the Boro Hall, Boro Park, Bay Ridge, Bath Beach, Bensonhurst, and Waterfront sections. He spoke at the Women's Peace Conference held by the Brooklyn Communist Party on May 26, 1951.

Emilia Giboyeaux. She was a member of the La Pasionaria Club, the Puerto Rican club, of which she was membership director.

Jose Giboyeaux, who was organizer of La Pasionaria Club.

Joseph Gill, 75 Cumberland Walk, Fort Greene housing project. He was a member of the Fort Greene Club and meetings of membership directors and financial secretaries were held in his home. He did attend a section meeting which I attended at section headquarters on January 3, 1950.

Harry Gold, 940 47th Street. He attended the regional training class which I attended in 1950.

Dr. Leonard Gorelick. He was a member of the Buck Lazar Club, was one of its club executives, and attended meetings of membership directors and financial secretaries at which I was present. He was a dentist by profession.

Shirley Gorelick, member of the Buck Lazar Club. She had a license to teach in the New York City school system but resigned.

I have the name of a person I would like to have your advice on who had once been organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section, but who died. Do you want any persons who are deceased to be mentioned?

Mr. TAVENNER. Not unless his functioning in the party was of such character that in order to describe the incidents in which he was involved that you should mention his name as a matter of authentication.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I don't recall now offhand whether I have mentioned his name in any of the testimony that I have given. It is very possible that I might have.

Mr. TAVENNER. I believe it would be preferable to wait until executive session.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading):

Adele Hardison. She was a member of the youth group in the Boro Hall section.

Al Henderson: He was a member of the youth group in the Boro Hall section. He was supposed to have been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club in 1950.

Vivian Johnson, 20 College Place: She was a member of the Boro Hall section, and a class entitled: "Know How of the United Front" was conducted in her home.

Philip Johnson, 20 College Place, was also a member of the Boro Hall section.

Louise Jonson: She was a member of the Walt Whitman Club and was supposed to be coordinator of clubs in the Fort Greene housing project. She was present at meetings which I attended.

Richard Jonson, commonly called Dick, member of the Walt Whitman Club. He had at one time been industrial director of the Boro Hall section. He had been a former organizer of the Fort Greene section and had been made organizer of the Williamsburg section. He was a member of the county committee, and he was at several of the meetings which I attended of the party.

Netta Katz, 157 North Elliott Place, in the Fort Greene housing project. She was a member of the youth section, and her home was used for meetings of the membership directors and the financial secretaries of the section; she being present at the time.

Lola Kehoe: She was a member of the La Pasionaria Club and present at meetings at which I was present.

Harry Kessler, 103 Joralemon Street. He was a member of the Riverside Club. I attended a meeting of the membership directors and treasurers of the Boro Hall section, which was held in his home on March 4, 1948.

Helen Korocoff: This is phonetic spelling. Helen had been assigned by the Boro Hall section to work on the Hardison case in the midst of which she moved to California. She was very active in this case. I heard her name mentioned only once. Therefore I say that is strictly a phonetic spelling.

Jean Kramer, also know as Curtis. She was a member of the Boro Hall section. She moved from 156 Hicks Street, to 50 East 12th Street, apartment



7-C, in New York City. She was at membership directors and financial secretaries meetings on April 20, 1949.

Jerry Kramer was a member of the Boro Hall section. He moved from 156 Hicks Street, to 520 East 12th Street in New York City.

He at one time addressed one of the meetings of the Jay-Smith club on the subject of the indictment of the Communist Party's 12 leaders.

Stella Lacher, 2 Grace Court: She was literature and press director, membership director, and treasurer of the Helen Horton club. She attended the county training class which I attended in 1948 and said she had joined the Communist Party in February 1946.

Essie Lang; I believe her name was Esther, 100 Clarke Street. She was financial secretary of the Buck Lazar club for a time.

Jack Lang, 100 Clarke Street; a member of the Buck Lazar club.

David Levine, 75 Cumberland Walk in the Fort Greene housing project. He was a member of the youth group in the Boro Hall section. At one time when the membership directors and financial secretaries of the section were holding a meeting in his home, he held a youth meeting.

Gert Levine, 1343 45th Street: The regional training class which I attended in 1950 was held in her home. I later learned that she was organizational secretary of the Boro Park-Bay Ridge sections, having been introduced as such at a regional meeting held in 1951.

Ida Levine, who married Joseph Gill at the time that I knew her, 75 Cumberland Walk, in the Fort Greene housing project. She was a member of the Fort Greene club.

David Livingston, member of the Walt Whitman Club in the Fort Greene housing project. He was present at one of the section meetings which I attended.

June Lostar, 24 Joralemon Street. She was at one time Boro Hall section press director, its treasurer, and its membership director. She was a member of the Riverside Club. She had been in the Army. She stated she had worked in the office of the National Maritime Union but had lost her job because of the result of rightwing elections in 1948..

Quince Marshall, 343 Bergen Street: He was a member of the youth group. He was supposed to go into Jay-Smith Club No. 2 but was assigned to youth group work in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section. He was attending Brooklyn College in 1950 and was to go into the Army in 1951.

Gloria Monroe, also known as Jackson, 551 Warren Street. She was a member of the youth group.

Al Neptune, 8 Monument Walk, Fort Greene housing project. He was educational director of the Boro Hall section. He had been made coordinator of Jay-Smith Clubs Nos. 1 and 2 for a time.

He stated he had been on the executive committee of the Fort Greene section in 1947 and had been that section's first organizer, that he had come from the Virgin Islands when about 21 years old, that he had been in the Communist Party in 1935, had worked for Sperry's during the war, and was working for the Brooklyn Union Gas Co. and was a member of the transport workers union. He was being released from party activity in the Boro Hall section to teach a class at the Jefferson School in the fall of 1950.

Inge Neptune, 8 Monument Walk, Fort Greene housing project. She was to be financial secretary of the Frederick Douglass Club. I was present at a meeting of the membership directors and financial secretaries held in her home.

Harry Oacher, that name may also be spelled Oncher. He was a member of the Riverside club. He was also a member of the executive committee of the Boro Hall section. He was director and instructor of the regional training class which I attended in 1950.

Leah Opperman, also known as Okun. She owned the building at 42 Livingston Street in Brooklyn. She was at one time treasurer of the Helen Horton Club and she was active in the American Labor Party.

Sylvia Pecker: She had been transferred from the youth group to the Frederick Douglass Club in the Fort Greene housing project where she was to be financial secretary of the club. She lived in the Fort Greene housing project.

She attended a meeting of membership directors and financial secretaries held on May 31, 1950, at which I was present.

Jack Perloff, 355 Pacific Street: He had been transferred to the Jay-Smith Club in error and was retransferred to a unit in the United Public Workers Housing Administration. He stated that he had been in the National Maritime Union. He stated that he had been an organizer of the Young Communist League in Ohio; that is, one of its branches.

Naomi Peyser, 85 Eastern Parkway: She was financial secretary of the Plaza Club for a while.

Leo Reiter, 116 Willow Street: He was a members of the Buck Lazar Club and became a member of the food unit. He stated that he worked for Waldbaum, Inc., grocers, at 1333 39th Street, Brooklyn. I understand that he later worked some place in Sheepshead Bay and that he had moved to the Greenwich housing project in 1950. He attended meetings of club executives which I attended.

Muriel Rogers, 47 Popular Street: She was a member of the Boro Hall section. On June 2, 1948, I attended a meeting which was held in her home, and I believe she became a member of the Buck Lazar Club.

Allen Rosenstein, together with Dave Sales, conducted the verification of executive members of the Jay-Smith Club on behalf of the Boro Hall section and the waterfront region. He was a member of the review commission and was present at the meeting at which I was expelled.

Mildred Rosenstein: She was an executive member of the Walt Whitman Club in the Fort Greene housing project and attended meetings of membership directors and financial secretaries which I attended.

Bear Sacks was a member of the county committee. She was organizational secretary and then organizer of the Boro Hall section. She taught some of the sessions of the regional training class which was conducted in 1950 which I attended.

David Sales, regional director and member of the county committee, together with Allen Rosenstein, conducted the verification of the executive members of the Jay-Smith Club on behalf of the Boro Hall section and waterfront region. He conducted the meeting at which I was expelled.

George Sande, a member of the Plaza Club, also a member of the executive committee of the Boro Hall section, and circulation manager of the Daily Worker.

He spoke at a meeting of the Jay-Smith Club January 6, 1948. In July 1948 he was to be transferred to Indianapolis while working in that city.

Teddy Schneiderman: He supervised the AYD in the area of the Jay-Smith Club where he organized a party youth club. He was a member of the Brooklyn-South youth group which won the Cacchione memorial cup for securing the most subscriptions in the drive in 1948. He had been a member of a club in the Bensonhurst section.

Francis Scoville, 828 Union Street: Organizational secretary of the Boro Hall section who later become its organizer.

Al Sharugrudsky, 9 Monument Walk in the Fort Greene Housing project: He was a member of the Boro Hall section, and meetings of membership directors and financial secretaries were held in his home. He wanted to attend the regional training class in 1950.

Edith Sharugrudsky, 9 Monument Walk in the Fort Greene section: She was a membership director of the Frederick Douglass Club.

Lenore Silberman, 167 Joralemon Street: She was at one time section literature director, its educational director and its membership director. She moved about September 1950 to a housing project in Long Island where she became active in the tenants council.

Cecil or Celia Solomon: She was an executive member of the Frederick Douglass Club in the Fort Greene housing project and attended meetings of financial secretaries and membership directors.

Blanche Spindell: She was a member of the Red Hook section who attended the regional training class which I attended.

Ethel Steiner, organizer of the Fort Greene Club in the Fort Greene housing project: She attended meetings which I attended.

Arne Sundeen was a member of the Boro Park section who attended the regional training class which I attended in 1950.

Ethel Toback was a member of the Boro Hall section and attended a section meeting which I attended on March 7, 1950.

Sylvia Zwerling: She was organizer, membership director, and financial secretary of the Frederick Douglass Club in the Fort Greene housing project.

That completes the list of those in the Boro Hall section whom I met on various occasions.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was the next higher level after the section level in the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. The county committee was the next highest level.

Mr. TAVENNER. What was your opportunity of learning the membership of the county committee of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Well, many times members of the county committee would come either to club meetings or to section meetings to address the clubs, in addition to which, when county meetings were held they would address the countywide membership meetings. So in this connection I did come to know some of them.

Mr. TAVENNER. Were there occasions when you attended a county committee meeting?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, not county committee meetings themselves. I attended section committee meetings but not being a section executive I did not attend county executive meetings.

Mr. TAVENNER. Have you identified, in the course of your testimony, those whom you learned to be members of the Kings County Committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I have not.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you do so now?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. [Reading:]

There was William Albertson, trade union director of the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party, in 1944, who became vice president of the Brooklyn Communist Political Association in 1944. He addressed a meeting of the Flatbush Club.

Sidney Brooks, financial secretary of the Brooklyn Communist Party, whom I saw at county meetings.

Margaret Cowl, also known as Krumbein: She had been a member of the women's commission of the Communist Party and of the New York State Communist Political Association school commission. She was on the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party and organized cadres or training classes conducted by the county.

She conducted a class at the Flatbush Club in 1944 and she spoke at the county training class in 1948 and the regional training class in 1950 which I attended.

Billy Frumpkin: She was secretary of the women's committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party. She spoke at the Women's Peace Conference held by the Brooklyn Communist Party on May 26, 1951.

Mickey Langbert: She was press director of the Brooklyn Communist Party in 1947 and spoke at a county meeting on January 11, 1947.

David Leeds, press director of the Brooklyn Communist Party in 1948: He was present at some of the county meetings which I attended.

Donald M. Lester: He was educational director of the Brooklyn Communist Party in 1949 and 1950 and was present at some county meetings which I attended.

Charles Loman, organizational secretary of the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party, spoke at many meetings of the Brooklyn Communist Party and of the Boro Hall section, and also at one of the meetings of the Jay-Smith Club.

Bertha Lowitt, was on the county committee. She was regional organizer of the Williamsburg area, and on the women's commission of the Brooklyn Communist Party. She was a speaker at the Women's Peace Conference held by the Brooklyn Communist Party on May 26, 1951.

Morton Anthony, or Tony: He was vice president of the Brooklyn Communist Political Association. He was at one time organizer in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section and he was also at one time educational director of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

Leon Nelson, was labor director of the Brooklyn Communist Party in 1950. He was chairman of the meeting which the Brooklyn Communist Party held at Webster Hall, July 11, 1950.

Joseph Roberts was executive secretary of the Brooklyn Communist Political Association. He was a member of the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party. He was a member of the Kensington Club and general manager of the Daily Worker.

Norman Schrank, member of the county committee, attended many of the party's functions at which I was present.

Nathan F. Slutzky: He was treasurer of the Brooklyn Communist Political Association. He spoke at a meeting of the Flatbush Club on February 5, 1945, at which he installed the new officers.

Carl Vedro: He was chairman of the veterans' committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party and also executive secretary of the Brooklyn Communist Party. I was at meetings which he addressed.

Fay Vedro was in charge of trade union and industrial concentration work of Kings County in 1947 and addressed one of the section meetings of the Boro Hall section at which I was present.

James W. Ford was a member of the county committee of the Brooklyn Communist Party and together with Charles Loman of the county committee, and Charles Marshall and Sophie Poulos of the Jay-Smith Club, met with Doxey Wilkerson of the Civil Rights Congress regarding the Hardison case in which the Jay-Smith Club took a very active part. He was present at the Lenin Memorial rally, Brooklyn Academy of Music, in 1949 and present at the Communist Party rally at Aperion Manor December 27, 1950.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, were the various organizations, on the club level and on the district level, addressed from time to time by functionaries of the Communist Party?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir.

Mr. TAVENNER. Will you please give the committee the names of those persons recorded by you who, from time to time addressed Communist Party members on both club level and section level? In doing so, give the identity of those individuals by their titles or any other descriptive information made public at that time in the presence of those whose names you are going to give us.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. May I say that there were other people present at these meetings who were also identified by their names. Would you want those people included?

Mr. TAVENNER. Yes. First you might describe the nature of these meetings generally.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. These meetings were either my own party club meetings or my own section party meetings or the county-wide meetings that were held by the Brooklyn Communist Party. They were all in connection with the party. They had nothing to do with any meetings other than the Communist Party and the majority of these meetings I would say were of a closed nature. They were not of the type that was open to the public in anyway.

That is, there was no admission charge for entrance to them. There may be a few exceptions to those that were not considered strictly closed such as Lenin Memorial meetings but Lenin Memorial meetings were in the first instance Communist Party meetings.

Mr. VELDE. Of course we have always considered those who attended closed party meetings as having membership in the Communist Party. We do not want in the record the names of anyone you think just came to see what it was all about. Is that the purpose?

Mr. TAVENNER. That is correct, sir, but my recollection is that these various people who were introduced at these meetings were introduced according to the positions they held in the Communist Party.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I would like to make clear that in not all cases did I have these people made known to me by a title. Some of them might have been introduced in connection with a particular activity being conducted at the time. Very specifically press drives when certain of the comrades were introduced as comrades who were doing a specific



job in connection with the press at the time this meeting was being held.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you mean the Communist Party press?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, in connection with the Daily Worker or Sunday Worker.

Mr. TAVENNER. Let me suggest this to you: That in any instance where there was not a closed meeting—that you not give the names of the persons present unless there was some identifying information given to indicate that that individual was a member of the Communist Party and that he was present when that information was given to the assembled group.

Mrs. BLAUVELT (reading):

Rose Alberts: I became acquainted with her name when she was introduced at a closed meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party held on December 15, 1947. She was called to the platform for having secured 85 subscriptions in the press drive. She was identified as a member of the East New York section of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

Rose Barkow—and that is a phonetic spelling—at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, she was introduced as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Isadore Begun: Member of the Bronx County Communist Party, and of the State committee of the New York State Communist Party. He was a speaker at the Ninth A. D. Club.

Henry Berkow—and that is phonetic—he was organizational secretary of the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of the Brooklyn Communist Party and spoke at a Brooklyn Communist Party rally held at the Aperia Manor on December 27, 1950.

Ruby Blum—and that is phonetic—she was introduced at the Lenin Memorial meeting held by the Brooklyn Communist Party at the Brooklyn Academy of Music on January 20, 1949 as a leader of the youth section in the Brooklyn Communist Party.

Dorothy Blumberg: Introduced as a member of the Brighton Beach section at the Women's Peace Conference held by the Brooklyn Communist Party on May 26, 1951.

Sandy Chalkin: At a closed meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party held on December 15, 1947 he was introduced as a member of the Waterfront section. This was in connection with the press drive.

Murray Cooke: I met him at the Cacchione campaign headquarters conducted by the Brooklyn Communist Party in 1945 at which time he stated that he had been a member of the Communist Party for many years and that he was a member of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade.

Bess de Jong: She managed the office of the Cacchione campaign headquarters conducted by the Brooklyn Communist Party in 1945 and stated that she had formerly been a member of the Young Communist League and of the American Youth for Democracy. She lived in the Brighton Beach section.

I have one name here which is questionable in my mind if counsel would like to review it and pass judgment on it.

Mr. TAVENNER. May I suggest that if you are doubtful in your mind about it that that is reason enough to take it in closed session.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Thank you. [Reading:]

Sadie Duroshkin: On April 17, 1945 at a meeting of the Flatbush Club she stated that she had been a Communist for 17 years. At this meeting she was introduced as a member of the executive committee of the Jewish People's Fraternal Order and as a leader in the Brownsville IWO.

Sam Finkelstein: At a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947 he was introduced as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Ann Friedlander: She conducted a lecture at the Flatbush Club upon the invitation of Abe Feingold, educational director of the Flatbush Club, and at



that time she stated that she was from a club other than Flatbush though she did not mention the club or section.

Isidore Freedman—that is phonetic: He was introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Simon W. Gerson, legislative director of the New York State Communist Party and candidate for the city council: The Brooklyn Communist Party conducted a very active campaign for his candidacy. He addressed meetings of the Brooklyn Communist Party and also open meetings such as Garden rallies at which I was present.

Irving Goff: He was chairman of the New York State Communist Party's veterans committee, and a veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade. He spoke at a meeting of the Flatbush section March 21, 1946.

Bill Gordon: He was introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Harry Grand: He was campaign manager for Cacchione in 1945 and stated that he was a member of the Thomas Paine Club.

Mary Himoff: She addressed a meeting of the Flatbush Club on January 8, 1946 and was introduced as a member of the State committee of the New York State Communist Party.

Howard (Stretch) Johnson: He was the educational director of the New York State Communist Party and spoke at a membership meeting of the Boro Hall section on June 21, 1949.

Samuel Kantor: He spoke at a forum at the Flatbush Club held on January 26, 1945, and was introduced as a member of the Kings County council of the Communist Political Association and as organizer of local 1225 of the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers of America.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you happen to know in what industrial plants that local union had bargaining rights?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. No, sir; I do not. [Reading:]

Esther Koch—and that is a phonetic spelling. She was introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Ben Klein. He worked at the Cacchione campaign headquarters with me in 1945 and was a member of the Tubman club.

Sidney Kramer. Sidney Kramer spoke at an open-air meeting which was held jointly by the American Youth for Democracy, Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order, the Brownsville Tenants Council, American Labor Party, Communist Party, and the IWO on August 6, 1947, at which time he was introduced as the chairman of the Brownsville section of the Communist Party.

He spoke at a closed meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party held on December 15, 1947, at which time he made a pledge to secure subscriptions to the press. He spoke at a Lenin memorial meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party held on January 19, 1950, at which he was introduced as the youth director of the Brooklyn Communist Party.

William Lawrence. He was secretary of the New York State Communist Political Association, veteran of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, and a representative of the Civil Rights Congress. He spoke at a meeting of the Flatbush club.

Lena Levine, 25 Lefferts Avenue. She stated to me on January 6, 1947, that she was a member of the Franklin Club, that she was a member of the American Labor Party and a member of the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, and that she had been in the party for 17 years.

Ida Luber. She was a speaker at the women's peace conference held by the Brooklyn Party on May 26, 1951.

Besame (Bess) Lumpkin, 147 Herkimer Street, Brooklyn, member of the Bedford-Stuyvesant section. She was educational director of the Brooklyn division of the Labor Youth League.

She spoke at a Cacchione memorial meeting on November 28, 1949; at a Lenin memorial meeting on January 19, 1950.

Sam Lurie. He was introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Gert Mendelsohn—and that would be a phonetic spelling—introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Mae Miller, a member of the State committee of the New York State Communist Party and of the women's committee of the National Communist Party. She spoke at the women's peace conference held by the Brooklyn Communist Party on May 26, 1951.

J. (Pop) Mindel. He spoke at a section convention of the Boro Hall section held July 19, 1948.

William Norman, organizational secretary of the New York State Communist Party; educational director of the New York State Communist Party. He spoke at a press conference held by the Brooklyn Communist Party on December 29, 1948.

Bea Novack. I met her when I was working at the Cacchione campaign headquarters in 1945.

She stated that she was a member of the Kensington club and that she was secretary to Dr. Mark Straus, who became the chairman of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

Cyril Philips. He was introduced as a Negro Communist leader. He spoke at a forum of the 9th Assembly District club.

Rae Posner. Rae is phonetic. Introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Elsie Rubin. She worked at Cacchione campaign headquarters with me in 1945 and stated she was a member of the Kensington club.

Isidore Shapiro. Member of the Brooklyn Communist Party in the Eastern Parkway section. He attended the county training school which I attended in 1948 which was held by the Brooklyn Communist Party.

Walter Shirvington. He was acting organizer of the Bedford-Stuyvesant section and was present at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party held on April 29, 1946.

Hal Simon. He was chairman of the trade-union committee of the New York State Communist Party and a leader in the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America. He spoke at the OPA rally held by the New York State Communist Party on April 24, 1946.

Nat Sirotka—that is a phonetic spelling—introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subs in the press drive.

Marion Sontag. She was introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subscriptions in the press drive.

Joe Troup—that is a phonetic spelling—he was introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subs in the press drive.

Max Weiss, foreign affairs director of the national committee of the Communist Party, spoke at a press and party building conference held by the Brooklyn Communist Party on March 20, 1948.

Mel Williamson. He was a contributor to a preconvention bulletin issued by the party in 1950 and he was introduced as a leader of the youth of the Communist Party at a rally which was held by the New York State committee of the Communist Party on March 21, 1951, to welcome back Eugene Dennis after he had served his contempt sentence.

Dave Zeldin, introduced at a meeting of the Brooklyn Communist Party on January 11, 1947, as having secured 20 or more subs in the press drive.

The Reverend Eliot White spoke at forums of the Flatbush club.

Mr. VELDE. Off the record.

(Discussion off the record.)

Mr. TAVENNER. I offer in evidence a document entitled "Churchmen and Communism, Views of a Clerical Communist," by Eliot White, under date of January 15, 1945, and request that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit No. 43," and that it be incorporated in the transcript of the record.

Mr. VELDE. It is so ordered.  
(The exhibit referred to is as follows:)

BLAUVELT EXHIBIT No. 43

[Reprinted from the Churchman, New York City, January 15, 1945, the oldest religious journal in the English speaking world—Founded 1804]

CHURCHMEN AND COMMUNISM—VIEWS OF A CLERICAL COMMUNIST

By Eliot White

Over a year ago, the author of this article, who has for many years been an occasional contributor to the Churchman, and who is a clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, joined the Communist Party. Believing that readers of the Churchman would be interested in knowing at first hand why he did so, we invited him to present his views freely. This he has done in the present article.

A salutary change is evident in the attitude of the more alert and realistic church leaders, both clerical and lay, toward Communists and what they stand for today.

The writer believes it indisputable that increasing numbers of ministers and lay people, whether their tendencies are toward the right or the left in social economic and political convictions, are realizing the necessity of knowing something definite and authoritative and not mere propaganda, pro or con, about communism. Because they are sure that to combat its tenets effectively, as well as to estimate it with any intelligent flavor, requires reliable information, to supersede mere emotional reactions of either nature.

No one can doubt that emotional reflexes are touched off by even the mention of the words "communism" and "Communists" today, more intensely and frequently than by any others in the lexicons of all the world's languages. A certain, to say the least, lurid leaflet, widely circulated by one of the two major political parties in the recent United States Presidential election, warning of an alleged "Communist conspiracy against America," and captioned in giant red letters, "Beware of communism in the United States," shows how sure some of this country's political authorities are of the surviving panicky complex of fear of "the Reds."

In the immediately approaching days there will be no theme more intensely and widely debated than that of Communist theory and practice. This is going to involve every aspect of life in our own and all other lands—social ethics and welfare, economics, politics, and by no means least, religion and the tenets and positions of the churches.

An unprecedented surge of inquiries and challenges, all related to this subject, is going to assail our own and other religious organizations, their ministries and their people. No escape corridor will be available through the claim that communism is solely a secular issue, and therefore not a legitimate concern of the churches.

On the contrary, those who are sufficiently forehanded to inform themselves, through the accredited literature and historical records of this worldwide movement, will, this writer is convinced, recognize it as definitely a religious issue. And as motivated not only by vision and fervor, but also by clarity of reasoning, and readiness for self-sacrifice to assure a more just and happy future for all mankind.

One of the most searching of all its challenges is going to involve an uncompromising comparison between the churches' and communism's closeness to the teachings of the Bible concerning the rightful, as against the customary, ownership of the land itself in all countries, and of all its subsurface treasures, such as coal, oil, ores and related necessities for the entire population's welfare.

But that subject, while of utmost importance, is not the theme of this writing, which would especially emphasize the need for united action by all opponents of fascism, against aggression and tyranny flaunting the titles of German nazism and Japanese Black Dragon barbarism, now threatening all values which civilized and freedom-loving people, the world around, agree must be defended and perpetuated at all costs.

To this end, it is surely not too much to hope that many more than at present, of the clergy and lay members of the churches, will make a sincere effort to over-

come their reluctance to investigate communism—at least far enough to see whether it can help them and the rest of our citizens favoring democracy, nearer to unity against its implacable foes.

The more alert observers, inside the churches, of significant social, economic, and political developments of this time, must have realized that an epochal change made early in 1944, by the American Communists in their alignment, was of importance to our entire national life:

Last January, the national committee of the Communist Party laid before a plenum of the membership, recommendation of a new step so surprising as for a time almost to stun the hearers.

This was nothing less than a proposal to dissolve the Communist organization as a party, and to reorganize as a political association: this to involve ceasing to function as a political body that puts forward candidates of its own for public office, and even discontinuing, until the present war should be won, and world peace established, all insistence on Communist tenets and what is often called its ideology.

Such recommendation was offered in furtherance of national unity against the direst threat of all history to ideals of liberty, democracy, and righteousness by militaristic aggression. With nazism, fascism, and oriental barbarism combining to menace everything which this country and all freedom-loving lands overseas treasure most dearly, no party labels or promotion of divisive influences must be allowed to interfere with united action against the terror.

Thus the Communists, in a spirit of patriotism and world interest as well as of awareness that without close cooperation with all anti-Fascist forces, we should be in peril of losing our liberties to the aggressors, proposed such momentous changes in their organization.

The above recommendation was then submitted to the entire membership of what was still the party, from coast to coast. Four months were allotted to insure thorough discussion of the new orientation, and in May, at a convention in New York of the entire party, it was unanimously approved and adopted. The name of the organization was altered to the Communist Political Association to accord with the authorized inner changes.

Editorial comments in the metropolitan press, upon this step by the Communists, were skeptical and largely hostile or even derisive. Not a solitary sentence conceded the least patriotism or self-abnegation in behalf of national and international welfare.

Such lack of journalistic insight or sportsmanship moved the present writer to compose a Suggestion for an Editorial, such as a city paper might have published, had it appreciated what the Communist changes signified, and been generous enough to say so. This suggestion, which was published in the column which I contribute weekly to *The Worker*, I should like to include here as part of the presentation of my theme:

"This newspaper has frequently voiced adverse criticism of the American Communist Party, but now, in the spirit of fair-minded journalism, we wish to commend the political foresight and irenic action which characterize that organization's most recently announced decisions.

"That the Communists of the United States, to aid in fulfilling the decisions of the great Teheran Conference, and in order to strengthen national unity of all anti-Fascist forces to win the war and assure a durable ensuing peace, should now declare a moratorium on trying to secure the establishment of socialism, and, instead, pledge cooperation as partners and allies with all Americans fighting the defeatists at home and prosecuting the war to victory, is, let us frankly acknowledge, to take a patriotic and courageous course.

"Never before, in the history of political organizations in this country, have the leaders of any one of them made so drastic a demand upon the discernment and loyalty of its members as this. For the Communist leaders now submit to consideration and debate by the entire party, outward changes which to hasty and shallow judgment appear to run counter to the organization's previous principles and purposes.

"This newspaper is watching with interested attention the response to so drastic a test. And if the outcome shall prove as favorable as the leaders believe, we trust that we shall not be the last to acclaim it as a public-spirited and unselfish decision in behalf of both national and worldwide progress and peace."

But such suggestion met with no response. Editorials, cartoons and funny columns of the metropolitan papers continue the ironic, uninformed and frequently contemptuous line which they evidently are sure that enough of their



readers will accept as truth, to make such treatment of communism and all that it is striving to achieve, advisable, and, as far as the sales of the papers are concerned, not unprofitable.

But one may have confidence that a more chivalric and truth-seeking spirit is moving through the churches today. Both ministers and lay people in larger numbers than before want to know whether the Communists really have something to contribute to the great and precious store of human values. They will listen. Many more of them than even a year ago, will welcome what they feel will help in the common need for intelligent understanding and united purpose against the bitter and ruthless enemies of our loved heritage, even though such help is offered by those still suffering smears and red-baitings from the prejudiced.

It is sober reality and in no degree a claim by special pleading, that the Communists are more awake to the deadly perils of fascism in our own country, as well as overseas, than members of any other organization today.

The churches have not as yet shown as much alert and informed awareness of that serpentine menace to every ideal of religion, as well as to every hope of even retaining, to say nothing of extending, the four freedoms.

The Communists, not only in the United States, but in nearly all other countries of the earth, are spearheading the unification of the total anti-Fascist elements among their peoples, regardless now of their various ideologies, political affiliations, creedal tenets, or any differences of color and racial origins.

The Communists are not scaremongers, but sober realists when they warn, as they are now doing, the whole globe around, that a vaster and more terrible fire of aggression and treachery will blaze against humanity, than that with which the Nazi arsonists burned the German Reichstag in the shameless hoax which aided them to political power in 1933, unless all the antiincendiary forces determinedly cooperate without further delay.

But this arousal of united opposition to world enemy No. 1—Fascism—should be the churchmen's present mission surely as much as, if not more than, that of the Communists, since all that the churches have wrought for good, in the long past, and all they hope for during the coming era, would be the special aim of victorious Fascism to destroy.

The churches are the accredited representatives of religion. And that special words of theirs, even if not always the hundred-percent reality of it, is from the Latin verb "re-ligare"—"to bind together"—signifying the supreme influence in the life and progress of humanity, for fellowship, harmony, and union.

Urgently and warningly it must be affirmed, therefore, at this time, that for the churches to lag behind communism, which makes no claim to leadership in religion, in the very work of uniting the peoples of the world against evil, which they, the churches, have as their professed aim—would be a major disaster.

Yet the Communists have no wish to appropriate to themselves such leadership. On the contrary, they would be exceedingly glad to have churchmen surpass them in zeal for united action against all divisive and tyrannical forces abroad in the world today. But as it is now, both clergy and people, if sufficiently determined to face reality, will acknowledge that they must apply themselves wholeheartedly to this uniting work, if they are to catch up with, to say nothing of surpassing, the Communists in this critically important field.

The rivalry here, far from being in the least degree hostile, can and should be a friendly emulation. Every ounce of strength, resolve and wisdom is needed in so great a task, and churchmen and Communists should now hail one another as indeed people on our side, gladly united against a grim and ruthless foe of what together they valorously defend.

Among the many examples in the countries of Europe today, of the influence exerted by the Communists in welding formerly noncooperative or even factionally hostile elements into a united front against facism, that which is furnished by developments in Yugoslavia is especially remarkable and encouraging.

In his valuably informative book, *My Native Land*, by Louis Adamic, a Yugoslav by birth, but now living in this country, he lays full emphasis upon the racial, creedal, and ideological discords which formerly kept his native land in turmoil. All the more impressive, therefore, against such a background is the description by this writer, of the new spirit of unity in ousting the Fascist invaders and terrorizers from Yugoslavia which now prevails hearteningly in that Balkan land.

Under the heading, "The Raft: Communists and non-Communists Together," Adamic writes: "In an earlier chapter I suggested that the liberation front, with its partisan army in Yugoslavia, made up of Communists and many shades of



non-Communists, was analogous to a crudely, hastily constructed raft. It was built of logs, planks and debris that floated about in the rising floodwaters of the people's resistance. It never pretended to be a *Normandie* or a seagoing yacht; nothing as finished and slick, delicate and vulnerable as that. It was in its own way an extremely tough, efficient, and tenacious craft."

The supreme commander of this union raft, and leader of all anti-Fascist fighters in Yugoslavia, is Marshal Josip Broz, internationally known by his popular title of Tito. "And he," Louis Adamic notes, "happens to be a Croatian and the foremost Communist in the Balkans. For his capture, dead or alive, the Nazi invaders of his country, offered, in July, 1943, a reward of 100,000 Reichsmarks.

"The first Yugoslavia," Adamic continues, in the same chapter of his book, "was molded with dreams and chicanery, and from the top down. Now, within the liberation front, a new Yugoslavia is being molded with blood and iron, from its depths up—from within the resistance—in and from the raft.

"But something else is being molded in that raft—war and postwar techniques, formulas, approaches, and relationships. Within the Yugoslav liberation front movement, as in wartime Russia, various kinds of non-Communists (the great majority of the population, as in Russia), have been working together with so-called Communists on the basis of mutual war and postwar aims. This fact seems to me of crucial importance.

"I say so-called Communists, for in the partisan army and among the liberation front civilians that designation—after 2 years of almost unbelievable struggle for life and eventual freedom—lost the special, sharp, distorted meaning it had before the war. Not that Communists gave up the Communist ideology, or that the non-Communists took it on. In the situation in which they found themselves, most prewar labels became irrelevant long before the Comintern was dissolved.

"People who used to belong to many parties were working and fighting for something beyond the whole botch of fear-ridden counterrevolutionary impulses and unrealistic revolutionary notions of the previous 25 years \* \* \*. That something is as yet without a name, unless it is, a New World."

One other example, among the many which could be cited, is from the newly reviving and reforming, Czechoslovakia, in process of liberation after its terrible years of enslavement by the Nazis. Edgar Snow, in his article, *Eastern Europe Swings Left*, in the *Saturday Evening Post* for November 11, 1944, wrote:

"I was particularly struck by the new spirit of cooperation when I met the Czechoslovakian administrative body, moving in to take over from the Red Army. It consisted of representatives of the Social Democrat, Communist, National Socialist, Agrarian Republican and Catholic Parties—all united on an avowed program of constitutional democracy.

"What may be emerging in this part of Europe, then, is a pattern much along the lines urged by Communists and some other parties of the left, before and after Munich. From 1933 on, the Communists of Europe generally abandoned their earlier slogans of the proletarian revolution.

"Instead, they sought to unite with liberals and democrats everywhere, first to form popular-front and, later on, united-front governments, to include all parties in the resistance to the rise of fascism. They failed then. Today, the popular front seems to be the inevitable heir to power, born above the grave of fascism."

To these instances of the new and vital molding of united action against the common enemy of all its components, in distraught and ravaged lands of this time, many others will be added as the records are completed. And hope inspiring indeed every one of them will prove to be, for a future of lasting peace and brotherhood.

Should not the churches, then, prophets and advocates of fraternity and all irenic influences through the ages, resolve to explore the widest and deepest possibilities of cooperation with today's unit-seeking communism?

While the individuality of the writer of this article for the *Churchman* is not important, yet it has a few not wholly irrelevant aspects:

A clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church, now in the 50th year of his ministry, he openly joined, together with his wife, the Communist organization nearly a year and a half ago. He was not only cordially welcomed, but soon afterward invited to contribute a weekly "column" to the pages of the *Worker*, the newspaper which represents the viewpoint of the Communist organization; thus becoming a member of that publication's staff.

Also, at the convention of the Communist Political Association in New York State this last June, he was invited to deliver the first address and was later elected a vice president.

All of which is of some significance, and viewed impersonally, constitutes something new and by no means negligible, both from the church and the Communist sides.

One of the older members of the association exclaimed to the president of the State organization: "Well, we are certainly going new places, when we elect a minister a vice president!"

Finally, this individual member both of the Episcopal ministry and the Communist Political Association, believes that he might be of service to the church in this connection, as he tries to be also to the Communist movement, if an effort in that direction were ever made by his ecclesiastical brethren.

On his part, he will enter no claim or advance any qualification whatever. But bridge builders, even though they frequently have to work "under fire," might now prove to be as vitally useful on the church-and-radical front as they have been found to be in the war areas.

Isaiah, in a commendation which all would-be reconcilers might well desire someday to merit, promises: "Thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in." (58: 12.)

The breach today is dangerously wide and deep. An experiment with even one of the possible bridge builders might yet be worth trying.

Mr. VELDE. May I say that the witness, as well as you, Mr. Counsel, and the committee all realize that the Communist Party has been attempting to infiltrate every branch of our American society. This is further evidence that the Communist Party has made some success in infiltrating the cloth.

I think we all recall that we had a witness by the name of Jack McMichael. As a result of his testimony the committee referred his case to the Department of Justice to consider possible prosecution for perjury. While not criticizing the Department of Justice, in any way, I do feel action should have been taken some time ago on the case of Jack McMichael.

Mrs. BLAUVELT, you have given us a volume of information which the committee has not had before in our files, and I am sure it will be used in the future to a very good advantage. We certainly do appreciate your coming here to testify and taking time out of the busy life you have.

I want to congratulate and commend not only you, but the New York City Police Department for the very fine methods used to determine just what this Communist menace is and I especially want to thank you and the New York City Police Department for cooperation with this committee.

I suppose in the future you might recall other names and other information which might be valuable to us. I express the hope that you will continue your cooperation with this committee.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. You can be assured of that.

Mr. VELDE. I wish you every success in the future.

There will be a brief recess.

[Brief recess.]

Mr. VELDE. You may proceed.

Mr. TAVENNER. Was any action taken by the Communist Party on the club level or section level relating to work before the Committee on Un-American Activities?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, of course the House Un-American Activities Committee was always one of those committees of Congress to which the party was opposed, and took every opportunity they possibly could to protest against its existence.

On many occasions they called for its abolition. I do not know if it is necessary for me to go into detail every time those particular statements were made because they were made fairly frequently.

There is, however, one instance to which I referred in previous testimony. It was in connection with a statement made by Abe Osheroff at a meeting of the Boro Hall section the latter part of October 1947 when he made reference to an action that had recently been taken by the Hollywood Ten, stating that it was not a spontaneous action but that there had been Communist influence behind it.

It seems to me that he might be referring to a rally which was held on October 25, 1947, by the Progressive Citizens of America. It was: Keep America Free Rally held at St. Nicholas Arena, 69 West 65th Street, in conjunction with the conference on cultural freedom and civil liberties held by the Progressive Citizens of America, October 25 to 26 at the Hotel Commodore.

I do not know that you want me to go into detail on what was said at that meeting except that it was announced that the rally was held for the purpose of protesting against the inquiry of the 19 Hollywood writers and actors by the House Un-American Activities Committee on the grounds of their being Communists, and some of these were present at the meeting and were introduced.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mrs. Blauvelt, as observed by you, what can you tell the committee regarding the discipline exercised by the Communist Party over its members?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. As I observed it during my period of time in the party I would say that it was a rather rigid discipline which the Communist Party exerted over its members. I know at one time while I was a member of the Lincoln Road Club, one of the members wished to drop out of the party, and not because he was unsympathetic to it. It was quite an involved case and would take a great deal of time for me to go into but, in connection with that case, Ruth Wang, membership director of the Flatbush section, said that a Communist could not simply resign from the Communist Party. It was up to the branch, the section and the county and finally the State committee to render a decision regarding the dropping of a member from Communist Party rolls.

I found that when I was in the Jay-Smith Club action was taken against members if it was felt that they were considered irresponsible and probably a detriment to the party in any way. They did have one of the members dropped after a hearing and although the dropping of this particular member from the party at that time was with the reservation that he might be permitted to come back into the party if he had proved his loyalty and trustworthiness, he was later formally expelled from the Communist Party on the charge of white chauvinism.

I also found that the Communist Party, especially during the time when it became very security conscious, was exerting a rather rigid screening of the comrades, and became very conscious of the moral attitudes of the comrades, all based on just how their actions would reflect upon the Communist Party.

There of course was the usual discipline placed upon the party members in that they were constantly instructed to attend meetings; they were instructed to participate in activities, and were called upon to explain their actions if they were inactive.

If, for instance, any of the party members made statements that were contrary to the party line or the party policy, they would be called to task for it and reprimanded.

We had one such case in the Jay-Smith Club where one of the members was charged with having criticized the Daily Worker, the national committee, and the Jefferson School in a nonconstructive manner, and he was to be called in to the club executive to explain his attitude.

There was one instance when control tasks were placed upon party members and this occurred in connection with the rally, peace rally, held by the party on August 2, 1950. Every comrade had been instructed that he had to attend this rally. There was no excuse for not attending it. Following that rally any one who had not been in attendance at it was given a control task. That control task at this time took in some instances the form of securing additional signatures to peace petitions or additional subscriptions to the Sunday or Daily Worker. It was a task in addition to their usual duties.

That is covering it very broadly, in a very general way.

Mr. TAVENNER. In your testimony you have discussed at various times the question of security. Will you sum that up for us at this time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I think that probably I could say that as far back as the early part of 1947 I became aware of the fact that the Communist Party was becoming security conscious. For instance, I was in the Lincoln Road Club at that time and the orders came through from the section that the dues records were now to be kept only with initials of the comrades and not in their names. I think I have spoken about reorganizing the clubs into groups for security reasons during the latter part of 1947 and during 1948, particularly at the time they felt that the Mundt bill might be passed to drive them underground and how in 1948 they became even more insistent that the clubs breakdown in small groups with just five members each.

After the indictment of the party's 12 leaders they became more security conscious than they ever had been before, and they had a very radical change in the reregistration of the membership at the end of 1948. When they began to register the members into the party for 1949, they discontinued the use of membership cards as a form of security; 1948 was the last year they issued membership cards to the members.

In addition to that, there was a change which I haven't touched upon before, but when a member was transferred from one club to another, a transfer card would be given to the member. Their name, their club affiliation, and membership card number would be on it, and they would present it to the new club as their means of identification, but that procedure was also to be discontinued at the end of 1948 and the comrades, when they transferred from one club to another, were now to use the serial number on a dollar bill. They would give the serial number to the membership director of their club who transmitted it to the section and then, of course, the process was for the section to clear all transfers through the county.

It would go through the county to the new section and the new club. When the comrade was notified of the new club that he was supposed to be in, he would have to identify himself by producing this dollar bill with this particular serial number on it.



As a matter of fact, when this procedure was introduced, Margery de Leon, membership director of the Boro Hall section, explained that it was after much discussion between State and county leaders that this method was selected as the most feasible method to be used for identification.

I think that I probably have covered most of the security measures taken through the reorganization of the Communist Party and especially that period in 1950 when it became absolutely mandatory for the clubs to be divided into small groups of not more than five members each.

These directives of course had been issued many times but I will say that at this period around the end of August 1950 there was absolutely no question about it, and it became a mandatory measure. The clubs just absolutely had to break themselves down into small groups of five each. It probably was prevalent throughout the city. I know in my section the section was undergoing a reorganization. It was a form to a certain extent of decentralizing the setup so that there would be probably a certain number of members on the section staff who would have a certain number of clubs under their supervision so that the clubs would have liaison between the section and their own club through a section coordinator.

Mr. WILLIS. I might state, that the date of 1950 is very significant. Among other things, that is the year we reported out of the Judiciary Committee a bill to require all persons having knowledge of espionage activities of foreign countries to register.

Under the Act of 1938 known as the Foreign Agents Registration Act persons who were actually agents of foreign governments of course had to register but then we cut much deeper in 1950 when we required that all persons who had knowledge of and training in espionage and communistic and other subversive activities, special training designed for execution in this country, but not necessarily as an agent of a foreign country, were required to be registered in 1950.

I have a suspicion that those new security measures taken by the Communist Party might have resulted partly as a result of that act.

As a matter of fact, we just this morning, the reason why it is fresh in my mind, amended the law. I just reported on the bill this morning before the committee, that very act.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I think probably I could illustrate. I have illustrated this before, and I think I have stated it before—that it was on August 22, 1950, that Al Neptune, the educational director of the Boro Hall section of the party, spoke about security and the need for reorganization in order for the party to function effectively in the event it was made illegal through congressional act on the Mundt-Nixon and McCarran Acts.

It was a very large contributory factor at that time. I know he spoke to the club on the need of going into mass organizations as the medium for the party to operate through in the event that it were driven underground. At that time he said that the party was in the midst of drawing up blueprints to conduct this activity.

Mr. TAVENNER. Through mass organizations?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, through mass organizations. That was the time that the Jay-Smith Club had been directed to establish a branch of the Civil Rights Congress.



Mr. TAVENNER. Was that the reason why all mass organizations were told then to be more careful than ever before as to their membership and type of activities being conducted?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir. I think that I could explain here that on the grounds of security; beginning in 1950 the Communist Party started to conduct verifications of its membership and this started at the high ranking level of the national committee, the county committees, and the section committees and also the branch executive levels, and that year I was verified orally. However, in 1951 the same procedure was followed and the verification was done in a written manner.

I had been given several mimeographed legal-sized pages on which there were many questions—I would say anywhere from 50 to 60 questions—which asked your full background, practically from the date of your birth right through your educational process, and your affiliations with the Communist Party both before and after joining.

I do not know how interested you are in the type of questions that were asked at that time. They are long.

Mr. TAVENNER. I am sure the committee would be interested in some of those questions. I suggest that you give a more adequate description of them.

Mrs. BLAUVELT. As I said, this was a mimeographed questionnaire divided into 3 parts: party background, military service, and personal life. Under part 1, the questions asked were as follows:

Your name, when and where you were born; where and with whom do you live; the nationality of your parents and their economic background; your trade, where do you work, what are your wages, what jobs have you held; your religious background; your education; are you a member of a mass organization; when and under what circumstances did you join the party; did you participate in any economic or political struggles prior to joining the party; in what economic and political struggles have you participated since joining the party; who were the party members you knew before joining the party; who were the party members you knew at the time you joined the party; who are the party members who have known you the longest.

Who are your close friends and acquaintances both party and nonparty; what party schools have you attended; what positions have you held in the party; have you ever been a full-time functionary; have you ever disagreed with the party, and if so in what way; has any disciplinary action ever been taken against you by the party; do you know anyone who is or has gone "sour" on the party; have you ever associated with anyone that has been expelled from the party; have you associated with anyone who is an enemy of the party; have you associated with anyone who has caused factional disputes; are any of your friends or relatives employed by the city, State, or Federal Government; have you ever held a city or Federal job; have you ever been investigated.

Under part 2 the questions were:

Were you ever a member of the Armed Forces; if so, in what branch; what was your rank; were you ever arrested for a traffic violation; were you ever out of the country.

Under part 3, the questions were:

Are you married; do you live with your husband or wife; do you have any children; what is your state of health; have you had any serious illness; have you ever received psychiatric treatment; do you play cards or the horses; do you drink.

It was quite intensive as a study of one's background.

After this written questionnaire was filled out, the comrades were

shown pieces of paper on which questions had been asked to which either a "yes" or "no" was to be the answer. These were:

Are you suspicious of anyone in the party or close to it; have you ever been investigated by the FBI; have you ever taken a civil-service examination; have you held a civil-service position; do you use narcotics.

If the question on being suspicious of anyone in the party was answered in the affirmative, the comrade was asked to write the name of the person and reasons for suspicion. That was the extent of that verification.

I know following my written verification, I was called in several weeks later and told that I had to undergo an oral verification based along the same lines; that they were considering me for a position of confidence in the party and wished to verify me further.

They then told me a little later that the position would have to be held in abeyance because there had been some charges against me that I might be an agent for the FBI. They did not seem to be quite sure, at least they intimated they weren't quite sure.

They said maybe somebody in the party was trying to cast suspicion upon me for some things that were taking place in the section, though they didn't mention what those things were; that probably I had an enemy who was trying to divert suspicion from himself and cast it on me, and that therefore they would conduct a further investigation of me.

They finally did call me into a meeting and at that meeting went through with expulsion proceedings. Two members of the Review Commission of Kings County Brooklyn Communist Party were present, Dave Sales and Allen Rosenstein. They had a photographer present and took some pictures of me and in addition to going through another oral interrogation almost like a third degree, repetition of question after question after question, they finally told me that I was a stoolpigeon, that I had done my dirty work in the party and that the party had no room for me and that I was being expelled.

Mr. TAVENNER. As far as you know, was there any immediate use made by the Communist Party of the photographs taken of you?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Not immediately, sir, as far as I could determine.

Mr. TAVENNER. Do you know whether it was their practice to send photographs taken under such circumstances to other clubs as a warning to them?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. In the case of any expulsion a record was to be made so that the Communist Party would know in any other section that a certain person had been expelled and was under suspicion so that in that particular section they would be cognizant of the fact and cautious so far as permitting that person to again reenter into the party. That was standard practice.

Mr. TAVENNER. What name were you using at this time?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I was using the alias of Sylvia Vogel.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you learn whether the Daily Worker used the photographs in any connection?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. I don't believe they ever did. I watched them very carefully for a long period of time after the expulsion and there was nothing in the paper. Of course at that time they weren't publicizing

expulsions, especially those expulsions that were made because of spying against the Communist Party, so as not to create any fear on the part of the rank and file membership. They had I know at one time resorted to the practice of publishing pictures—

Mr. TAVENNER. And also publishing names of those expelled?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes, sir; and I think even giving a biography of these people. That was the practice I think before even the time I was in the party.

Mr. TAVENNER. Did you find at any later date that any Communist Party organ did make public the fact of your expulsion and give a warning to other Communist Party members regarding you?

Mrs. BLAUVELT. Yes. In the September 1953 issue of Party Voice. It happened to come into my hands and I did find that a picture that had been taken of me at the expulsion meeting was printed, with a description:

This picture will identify one "Sylvia Vogel" as a police spy. She was expelled as such from the Brooklyn Communist Party. All decent people, especially trade unionists and progressives, are warned against her.

Mr. TAVENNER. I desire to offer in evidence the September 1953 issue of Party Voice and ask that it be marked "Blauvelt Exhibit 44" for identification purposes only and to be made a part of the committee files.

Mr. MOULDER. It is so ordered.

Mr. TAVENNER. Mr. Chairman, I have no further questions to ask the witness at this time.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Willis, any questions?

Mr. WILLIS. No.

Mr. MOULDER. Mr. Frazier?

Mr. FRAZIER. No questions.

Mr. Chairman, I want to join other members of the committee in congratulating this lady and thanking her for the very valuable contribution she has made to the work of the committee. I am sorry I wasn't here to hear the testimony the last 2 days.

Mr. WILLIS. Mr. Chairman, I too want to express for myself and for the committee the gratitude we hold for this witness. I know that Mrs. Blauvelt has been doing this yeoman work since 1943 and that was during a time when there were great indifference to what many of us feel to be the vital threat of the Communist conspiracy, so that you and the police department of which you are a member are not johnny-come-latelys in this fight but have been aware of it all along and didn't have to be prodded by this committee or the vociferous voices that made themselves heard when apparently it was popular for everybody to get into the act.

Yours was a very commendable piece of work and I wish you would express to the Police Department of New York City the gratitude of the committee.

Mr. Chairman, normally I think it would be done anyway, but I would like the record to show we think it would be well for the committee clerk to write not only to Mrs. Blauvelt but to the good Police Department of New York City in regard to this work in this struggle against those who would destroy our country.

Mr. MOULDER. That is a splendid suggestion and the clerk will prepare a letter commending Mrs. Blauvelt and expressing the committee's appreciation to her and to the Police Department of New York.

I want to join with my colleagues also in expressing my appreciation for your appearance here before this committee.

You certainly are entitled to the gratitude of all the members of the committee and I know they join with us in expressing our appreciation for your work and your cooperation with the committee. Indeed, I think you are one of the most intelligent witnesses who has ever appeared before this committee, and your testimony has not only been interesting but it will be a very valuable contribution toward the work of the committee.

The committee will now adjourn and will go into executive session.

(Whereupon, at 4 p. m. the committee was recessed, subject to call of the chairman.) (Previous testimony of Mrs. Mildred Blauvelt heard on May 3-4, 1955, is printed in Part III of this series.)

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# INDEX

## INDIVIDUALS

	Page
Abrams, Archie	830
Abrams, Bud. <i>See</i> Abrams, Irwin.)	
Abrams, Chris. ( <i>See</i> Abrams, Florence.)	
Abrams, Dorothy. ( <i>See</i> Ames, Dorothy.)	
Abrams, Florence (also known as Chris Abrams)	847
Abrams, Irwin (also known as Bud Abrams)	847
Abrams, Ruth	830
Abramson, Herman	870, 937, 938
Abroff, Gert	872, 879
Abroff, Harold	872, 879
Adamic, Louis	980, 981
Akula, Rose	847
Alberts, Rose	975
Albertson, William	973
Alexander, Bill	847
Alleyne, Cameron C.	959
Ames, Dorothy (formerly Dorothy Abrams)	830
Ames, Michael	830
Antell, Mickey	968
Arnold. ( <i>See</i> Auerbach, Leo.)	
Asher, Frank	824, 830, 832, 844
Auerbach, Leo (also known as Arnold)	847, 859, 931
Auerbach, Shirley (also known as Shirley Wallach)	848, 942
Badner, Ad	968
Badner, Judith	968
Bakerman, Harold	848
Ballin, Steve	830
Barban, Selma	968
Barkow, Rose	975
Barnes, Mary Ella	914
Barron, Sam	836, 842, 844, 845
Barsky, Edward	947
Bass, Charlotta A.	959
Bate, Sabina	848
Begun, Isadore (or Isidore)	825, 975
Bell, Joseph	823, 968
Benson, Elmer	959
Berkow, Henry	975
Bernstein, Eileen (also known as Estelle Bernstein)	848
Bernstein, Leo	848
Bick, Abraham J.	959
Black, Miriam	848, 859
Blauvelt, Mildred (aliases Brandt, Mildred; Vogel, Sylvia)	820-989 (testimony)
Blom, Betsy	848, 854, 859
Bloom, Ben	848
Bloom, Norman	848
Blum, Ruby	975
Bluman, Sabina	848
Blumberg, Dorothy	975
Bodenheim, Minna	857
Bonds, J. E.	959
Borgia, Larry	879

	Page
Boylan, Ann	830
Brace, Seenie (nee McCantes)	919
Branch, G. Murray	959
Brandt, Mildred. (See Blauvelt, Mildred.)	
Bregman, Bertha	969
Bregman, Dorothy	914, 949
Bregman, Stanley	914
Brenner, Evelyn	969
Bridges, Harry	959
Brier, Moishe	948
Brockman, Harry. (See Shapiro, Harry.)	
Brockman, Selma. (See Shapiro, Selma.)	
Brooks, Sidney	892, 973
Browder, Earl	899
Brown, Ethelred	825
Brown, T. E.	959
Bryant, Ann	914
Bryant, Bill. (See Wilson, William.)	
Bryant, Eileen. (See Wilson, Eileen.)	
Bryant, Walter	914
Bryson, Hugh	959
Budnoff. (See Dell, Bud.)	
Burke, John	914
Burke, Violet	914
Burns, Joe	848
Buss, Esta (Esther)	873, 879, 886, 937, 940
Bussie, Arthur	848
Bussie, Bob	848
Bussie, Susie (Mrs. Arthur Bussie)	848
Cacchione, Peter V.	850, 903, 904, 937
Cahn, Bill	873, 880, 886, 895, 924, 940, 942
Cahn, Rhoda	880, 886, 923, 924, 940, 942
Carlson, A. J.	959
Cass, Dorothy	848
Chalkin, Sandy	975
Chapman, Abraham	825, 831
Childress, Alice	959
Chilton, Ethel	914
Chilton, George (Skippy)	915
Christman, Alvin B.	959
Chudnonsky, Bernie	915
Clark, Joe	902
Coghlán, Frank	848
Cohen, Hy	849
Coleman, Sam	913
Collins, Harold	880
Colon, Jesus	969
Colton, James	849
Contegenis, Gus (also known as Contes)	915
Cooke, Marvel	959
Cooke, Murray	975
Cooper, Eunice	969
Cooper, Herbert	849, 942
Cooper, Rose	849
Coughlin, Charles E.	833
Cowl, Margaret (also known as Margaret Krumbein)	823, 824, 859, 973
Cronbach, Abraham	959
Curtis, Jean	970
Damanon (also known as Max Young)	868
Davis, Ben	823, 913, 957, 969
Davis, Benjamin J., Jr.	823, 913, 937
Davis, Gerry	969
Davis, L.	917
Dawber, Mark A.	959
Dawn, Fred	915, 944
Dawn, Jo Ann	915

	Page
DeBurr, Peter	928
de Jong, Bess	975
DeLacy, Hugh	867
de Leon, Margery	890, 897, 969, 985
Dell, Amen. ( <i>See</i> Mendell, Pete.)	
Dell, Bud (also known as Budnoff)	915
Dell, Christine (Mrs. Bud Dell)	915
DeMaio, Ernest	959
Dennis, Eugene	895, 896, 953, 960, 961, 964
Derrick, John	964, 965
de Martino, Al (also known as Al Martin)	886, 939
Dickerson, Earl B.	959
Dodd, Dr. Bella V.	931
Dombrowski, James A.	959
Dore, Carlos	936, 969
Dore, Virginia	969
Dorsky, Leon	849, 947, 948
Druckman, Hy	849
DuBois, W. E. B.	958, 959, 965
Duniyan, Mayme	959
Duroshkin, Sadie (also known as Sadie Shatkin)	859, 975
d'Usseau, Arnaud	959
Edelson, David (also known as Miller)	886, 933
Edelson, Ethel (also known as Judith Miller)	886
Ehrlich, Bob	891, 913, 944, 969
Eisinger, Eduard (Eddie)	969
Elias, Sylvia	849
Eliashow, Stella	855
Engel, Bernice	849, 858
Erickson, Thomas	849
Escobitz, Al. (also known as Itzcovitz)	969
Evans, Joseph M.	959
Fairchild, Henry Pratt	959
Farmer, Fyke	959
Fast, Howard	959
Fauntleroy, G. Linwood	959
Fauset, Arthur Huff	959
Feig, Molly	849
Fein, Rebecca	849
Feingold, Abe	822, 834, 849, 853, 859, 861, 870, 873, 884, 886, 894, 928, 948, 975
Feingold, Elizabeth	880, 886, 905
Felshin, Max	825
Feuer, Irving	893, 915
Feuer, Nettie	915
Fields, Jerry	916
Fields, Laura	892, 916, 956
Fierman, Ann	849
Fierman, Harry	849
Fine, Jack	969
Finkelstein, Sam	975
Flacks, David	855
Flaxer, Abram	959
Forbes, Hazel	875
Ford, James W.	974
Forland, Trygve	916, 922
Frank, Bernie	969
Frank, Bert	874, 886
Freedman, Isidore	976
Freeman, Edward A.	959
Freeman, Isa	849
Friedlander, Ann	975
Friedlander, Julia	849, 850
Friedlander, May	850
Friedman, Hy	969
Friedman, Sadie	942

	Page
Frishkoff, Max	969
Frishkoff, Paulette	916
Fritchman, Stephen	959
Frumpinkin, Billy	957, 973
Fundler, Fan	825, 830, 831
Gabin	969
Gannett, Betty	894
Garber, Larry G. (also known as Gold)	880, 886
Gates, John	901, 926
Gavin	969
Gellar (or Geller), Lil	850
Gellar, Rose	886, 940
Georgia, George	916
Gerson, Simon W.	976
Gerwitz (or Gurwitz), Herb	957, 970
Giboyeaux, Emilia	970
Giboyeaux, Jose	970
Gilbert, Leon	965
Gill, Ilya	850
Gill, Joseph	970, 971
Gill, Mrs. Joseph (formerly Ida Levine)	971
Gluck, Sid	850
Goff, Irving	931, 976
Gold. (See Garber, Larry G.)	
Gold, Ben	933, 934
Gold, Harry	970
Goldberg. (See Rivlin, Ann.)	
Goldburg, Robert E.	959
Goldenberg, Isaac	850
Goldman, Gloria	850
Goldman, Jennie	874
Goldstein, Florence	850
Goldstein, Nathan	850
Goldway, David	825, 831, 859
Gollomb, Rose	850, 870, 874
Goodlett, Carlton B.	960
Goodman, Blanche	850
Goodman, Florence	886
Goodman, Gerald	850, 886, 925
Goodman, Judy	850, 851
Gordon, Bill	976
Gordon, June	931
Gordon, Max	859
Gorelick, Leonard	970
Gorelick, Shirley	970
Gould, Gloria	850
Gould, Shirley	850
Graham, Etta	916
Grand, Harry	976
Grant, Nelson	850
Green, Gilbert	898
Green, Sidney	850
Greenberg, Myra	916
Greene, Bert	831
Greenhill, Leona	850
Greenleaf, Marty	851
Grossman, Cecelia	851
Grossman, Lillian	851
Grossman, Mildred	855
Grossman, Ted	850
Gruber, Miriam	851
Gurwitz, Herb. (See Gerwitz, Herb.)	
Gustafson, Nils	916
Hagen, Uta	960
Hall, Georgia Lee	916

	Page
Hall, Gus	926
Hardart, Joseph	875, 880
Hardison, Adele (Mrs. Tony Hardison)	892, 942, 970
Hardison, Tony	942-944, 968, 970, 974
Harisiades, Peter	966
Harrison, William	960
Haskell, Florence	851
Hausman, Caroline	916
Henderson, Al	892, 950, 970
Herbst, Edward	855
Herbst, Selma. (See Shapiro, Selma.)	
Heyman, Belle	875, 880, 886
Heyman, Harold	875, 880, 886, 896, 940
Highliger, Morris	916
Hill, Charles A.	960
Himoff, Mary	867, 868, 976
Hirschfeld, Esther	851
Holmstrom, Fred	916
Horowitz, Minna	831
Houston, P. J.	960
Howard, Charles P.	960
Hughes, Kenneth deP	960
Hurst, Fannie	928
Ingram, Rosa Lee	958, 963
Itzcovitz, Al. (See Escobitz, Al.)	
Jackson, Ada B.	906
Jackson, Eugene	855
Jackson, Gloria. (See Monroe, Gloria.)	
Jackson, Susan	851
Jaffe, Estelle	851
Jasper, Hannah	851
Jenkins, Joseph	917
Johnson, Helen	851
Johnson, Howard (Stretch)	976
Johnson, Philip	970
Johnson, Vivian	970
Jones, Claudia	931
Jonson, Louise	970
Jonson, Richard (Dick)	970
Kahn, Leonore	851
Kantor, Phyllis	851
Kantor, Samuel	859, 976
Katz, Irving	917
Katz, Netta	970
Kaufman, Sigma	851
Kaye, Sally	851
Kehoe, Lola	900, 970
Kenton, Michael	851
Kessler, Claire	917
Kessler, Harry	970
Klein, Ben	976
Klein, Rena	851
Kleiner, Helen	880
Koch, Esther	976
Koel, Helen	851
Korocoff, Helen	970
Kovacs, Eugene	851
Kramer, Jean (also known as Jean Curtis)	970
Kramer, Jerry	971
Kramer, Sidney	976
Kroll, Jerry	851
Kroll, Marion	852
Krumbein, Margaret. (See Cowl, Margaret.)	
Kuttner, Lucille	852
Lacey, Herman	880
Lacher, Stella	971
Lang, Esther (Essie)	971



	Page
Lang Jack	971
Langbert, Mickey	973
Lanser, Manny	852
Lanser, Mildred (Mrs. Manny Lanser; also known as Mickey Lanser)	852, 947
Larsen, Karley (Karly)	960
Landau, Bernice	917
Lasky, Caryl	891, 892, 908, 909, 917, 935, 950
Lawrence, William	899, 976
Lederman, Abraham	855
Leeds, David	973
Lepowsky, Florence	852
Lepowsky, Robert (Bob)	852
Lester, Donald M	973
Lester, Inez	852
Levin, Sally	852
Levin, Sarah	852
Levine, Abe	880
Levine, David	971
Levine, Florence	852, 870, 876
Levine, Gert	823, 971
Levine, Ida (Mrs. Joseph Gill)	971
Levine, Lena	976
Levowin, Paula	852
Lewis, Sara Rubinsky (also known as L. Davis)	917
Lief, Matty	852
Liff, Dorothy	852, 870, 876, 886, 923, 942
Liff, Murray	852
Livingston, David	971
Loman, Charles	954, 955, 957, 973, 974
Longhi Vincent	937
Lostar, June	971
Lovett, Robert Morss	960
Lowitt, Bertha	957, 973
Luber, Ida	976
Lurie, Rose	831
Lurie, Sam	976
Luschinsky, Betty (also known as Michaels)	917, 918
Lumpkin, Besame (Bess)	976
McCanns, David	960
McCantes, Seenie ( <i>See</i> Brace, Seenie)	919
McGee, Willie	958, 964, 965
McGirt, W. A., Jr.	960
McGuire, Howard	960
McMichael, Jack	982
McNab, Wallace	919
Mack, Geneva	918
Mack, Laverne	918
Mailman, Audrey	918
Mailman, Harold	918
Mallard, Robert	964
Manning, Sylvia	852
Marshall, Charles	893, 897, 898, 907, 912, 916, 918, 926, 927, 950, 960, 967, 969, 974
Marshall, Larkin	960
Marshall, Marjorie	919, 948
Marshall, Quince	950, 971
Martin, Al. ( <i>See</i> Di Martino, Al.)	
Maslowski, Anna	919
Max, Alan	895
Medinz, Beckie	880
Medinz, Betty	870, 871, 877, 880, 904
Medinz, Millie (Mickey)	880
Mendell, Pete (also known as Amen Dell)	831, 843
Mendelsohn, Gert	977
Michaels. ( <i>See</i> Luschinsky, Betty.)	
Miller. ( <i>See</i> Edelson, David.)	
Miller, Judith. ( <i>See</i> Edelson, Ethel.)	

	Page
Miller, Helen (or Ellen Miller)	853
Miller, Lil	853
Miller, Mae	957, 977
Millner, Mike	853
Mindel, J. (Pop)	977
Mitchell, Walter A.	960
Mleoz, Bessie	853
Mogolescue, Jack	853, 928
Mogolescue, Louis	853
Monroe, Gloria (also known as Gloria Jackson)	892, 971
Monroe, Jimmie	919
Monroe, Minnie	919, 942
Montaigne, Kay	853
Moore, Ira	919
Moore, Mary	919
Morell, Stecia	853, 858
Morell, Ted	853, 858
Morganstern, Anne E.	853, 870, 879
Morrison, Philip	960
Morton, Anthony (Tony)	903, 973
Mougianis, Leona	919
Mougianis, John	919
Moulton, Arthur W.	960
Murphy, Charles	928
Nelson, Leon	973
Nelson, Mary	880, 886
Nelson, Steve	894
Nelson, Walter	879, 880, 886
Nemeroff, Charles	853
Nemeroff, Harry	853
Nemeroff, Reva	853
Neptune, Al	893, 906, 911, 912, 927, 935, 938, 944, 971, 985
Neptune, Inge	971
Newman, Ray	853
Niemark, Lester	888
Norman, William	894, 931, 951, 953, 977
Novack, Bea	977
Nowak, Dorothy	880
Oacher, Harry (or Oncher, Harry)	823, 971
Ogilvie, Thomas	960
Ogur, Sylvia	880
Okun, Leah. ( <i>See</i> Opperman, Leah.)	
Oncher, Harry. ( <i>See</i> Oacher, Harry.)	
Opperman, Leah (also known as Leah Okun)	971
Osheroff, Abe	900, 901, 907, 919, 925, 983
Ostrow, Thelma (also known as Ostrowitz)	886
Pakin, Sylvia	853
Paolone, Clementina J.	960
Parsons, Lucy	888
Pauling, Linus	960
Peck, Jack	889
Pecker, Sylvia	971
Peisner, Leo	853
Pelham, Gil	880, 881, 886, 895, 940, 942
Perla, Roslyn	853
Perloff, Jack	954, 955, 971
Perloff, Ruth (Mrs. Jack Perloff)	912, 919, 935, 941, 954, 956
Peyser, Naomi	972
Philips, Cyril	825, 977
Pierce. ( <i>See</i> Price, Oscar and Rhoda.)	
Pierce, Ben	876
Pierce, Norma	877
Platt, Dorothea	854
Polimeris, George	919
Popper, Jim	854
Posner, Rae	977

	Page
Poulos, Sophie (Mrs. Tony Poulos; also known as Steiner)-----	919,
	926, 927, 949, 955, 974
Poulos, Tony-----	919, 926, 927, 955
Prago, Al-----	831
Price, Oscar (also known as Pierce)-----	853
Price, Rhoda (also known as Pierce)-----	854
Ransom, Willard B-----	960
Reid, William N-----	960
Reiter, Leo-----	972
Reno, Earl-----	868
Richman, Harry-----	881, 886
Richman, Sylvia-----	881, 886, 939
Rivlin, Ann (also known as Goldberg)-----	854, 870
Roberts, Harry-----	960
Roberts, Joseph-----	903, 973
Robeson, Eslanda Goode-----	960
Robeson, Paul-----	926, 933-935, 950, 958, 960
Robinson, James-----	825
Rogers, John-----	854, 870
Rogers, Muriel-----	972
Roman, Murray (also known as Morris Romanofsky)-----	908, 919
Roman, Nettie (also known as Nettie Romanofsky)-----	908, 920, 922
Romanofsky, Morris. (See Roman, Murray.)	
Romanofsky, Nettie. (See Roman, Nettie.)	
Rosen, Alex-----	848, 854, 948
Rosenberg, Dave-----	859
Rosenberg, Harold-----	854
Rosenberg, Nat-----	854, 870
Rosenbluth, Elsie-----	854
Rosenbluth, Nat-----	837, 851, 854, 860, 865, 868, 928, 939, 947
Rosenfeld, Jeanette-----	881, 922
Rosenfeld, Judith-----	854
Rosenfeld, Seymour-----	881
Rosenstein, Allen-----	833, 972, 987
Rosenstein, Mildred-----	972
Rosenthal, Betty-----	871
Rosenthal, Jean-----	872
Rothman, Esther-----	855
Rothman, Jean-----	854
Rothstein, Max-----	888
Rouse, Nellie-----	920
Rubin, Elsie-----	977
Rubin, Hattie (also known as Rubinstein)-----	884, 886
Rubin, Isadore-----	854, 855
Rubin, Phyllis-----	855
Rubinstein. (See Rubin, Hattie.)	
Rubio, Antonio-----	960
Rudbarg, Rhoda-----	855
Rudder, John-----	960
Russell, Rose-----	855
Ryan, Sid-----	855
Ryder, Dorothy. (See Weber, Dorothy.)	
Sacks, Bea-----	823, 824,
	891, 898, 900, 908, 913, 918, 943, 953, 967, 972
Sales, David-----	833, 972, 987
Sande, George-----	906, 972
Sartisky, Jack-----	942
Schaefer, Elsa-----	855
Schlessel, Vivian-----	855
Schlessner, Doris-----	855
Schneiderman, Barney-----	878, 884
Schneiderman, Susan-----	888
Schneiderman, Sylvia-----	878, 884

	Page
Schneiderman, Teddy	950, 972
Schor, Eleanor (Mrs. Gerald Schor; nee Woolman)	838, 900, 906, 920
Schor, Gerald (also known as Gerald Woolman)	920, 921
Schor, Harold	855
Schrank, Norman	957, 973
Schutz, Bea G.	831
Scoville, Francis	893, 912, 972
Secundy, Janet	855
Secundy, Louis	855
Seligman, Helen	856
Shapiro, Blanche	856
Shapiro, Harry (also known as Harry Brockman)	897, 900, 914, 916, 920, 925, 926
Shapiro, Isidore	977
Shapiro, Jane	884
Shapiro, Selma (also known as Selma Brockman and Selma Herbst)	920, 944
Sharugrudsky, Al	972
Sharugrudsky, Edith	972
Shatkin, Sadi. ( <i>See</i> Duroshkin.)	
Sheftman, Fanny	831
Sherman, Shep	856
Shirvington, Walter	977
Shtabe, Abe	856, 866, 869
Shtabe, Dorothy	856
Siegel, Blanche	920
Siegel, Milton	920
Siegel, Sol	889
Silas, Bertha	921
Silas, Nick	921
Silberman, Annette	888
Silberman, Lenore	892, 972
Silver, Joe	831
Silverstein, Harry	856
Silverstein, Mildred	856
Simkins, Andrew W.	960
Simon, Hal	931, 977
Simon, Joe	889
Singer, Mike	856
Sirota, Nat	977
Slade, Gina	856
Slater, Thomas L.	960
Slutzky, Nathan F.	974
Smith, Gerald L. K.	833
Smith, Louise Pettibone	960
Snow, Edgar	981
Solomon, Ceil (Celia)	972
Sontag, Marion	977
Sorokin, P. A.	960
Sperling, Roslyn	856
Spindell, Blanche	972
Squire, Abraham	855, 856
Stamm, Frederick K.	960
Starobin, Joseph	859
Steiner. ( <i>See</i> Poulos, Sophie.)	
Steiner, Ethel	972
Straus, Judy (Mrs. Mark Straus)	887
Straus, Mark	887, 977
Stover, Fred W.	960
Stuart, John	921
Sufian, Belle	871, 884
Sundeen, Arne	972
Switle, Eleanor	892
Taffler, Anna	966
Tettelbaum, Mrs.	859
Thompson, Robert	869, 931, 933, 951, 953

	Page
Tito (Marshal Josip Broz)-----	891
Toback, Charles-----	921
Toback, Ethel-----	972
Tobin, Sophie-----	856
Tow, Lucille (Mrs. Sid Tow)-----	884, 886
Tow, Sid-----	884, 886
Travis, Maurice-----	960
Troup, Joe-----	977
Tserimegas, Steve-----	921
Turchin, Bud-----	884
Tyler, Charles E.-----	960
Tyler, Leonard-----	837, 877, 884
Vankin, Bella-----	856
Vedro, Carl-----	894, 974
Vedro, Fay-----	974
Vitrogen, Blanche-----	856
Vitrogen, Dave-----	856
Vogel, Sylvia. (See Blauvelt, Mildred.)	
Wagner, Carrie-----	856
Wagner, Monroe-----	857
Wallach, Rose-----	831
Wallach, Shirley. (See Auerbach, Shirley.)	
Wallman, Natalie-----	857
Wallman, Pete-----	857
Wanamaker, Sam-----	960
Wang, Ruth-----	837, 857, 861, 870, 878, 886, 903, 904, 940, 942, 948, 983
Wang, Sid-----	837, 867, 868, 889, 925, 937, 940
Weber, Dorothy (also known as Dorothy Ryder; Dorothy White)-----	831
Weeden, Joe-----	857
Weiss, Charlotte-----	857
Weiss, Max-----	902, 977
Weiss, Selma-----	950
Weinless, Eva-----	857
Weinstone, William-----	831
Weltfish, Belle-----	857
Weltfish, Jerry-----	857, 923
White, Dorothy. (See Weber, Dorothy.)	
White, Eliot-----	859, 977, 978, 981
White, Mrs. Eliot-----	981
Wilkerson, Doxey-----	859, 974
Williamson, John-----	894, 895, 931
Williamson, Mel-----	977
Wilson, Eileen (also known as Eileen Bryant)-----	892, 921
Wilson, William (also known as Bill Bryant)-----	921, 922
Winston, Henry-----	896, 926
Wishner, Matty-----	857
Wolfe, James H.-----	960
Woolman. (See Schor, Gerald and Eleanor.)	
Wortis, Rose-----	856
Young, Goldie-----	831
Young, Max. (See Damanon.)	
Zazza, Ada-----	857
Zeldin, Dave-----	977
Zelman, Cecelia (Mrs. Fred Zelman)-----	878, 884
Zelman, Fred-----	878, 884
Zidl, Yetta-----	857
Ziff, Abraham-----	831
Zimmerman, Max-----	857
Zinghini, Joseph-----	922
Zockowitz, Frances-----	922
Zwerling, Sylvia-----	972

## ORGANIZATIONS

Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America-----	850
American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born-----	941
American Communications Association, The-----	838, 848



	Page
American Council for a Democratic Greece-----	840, 841
American Jewish Congress-----	925, 940, 941
American Jewish Labor Council-----	935
American Labor Party-----	857, 860, 900, 902, 906, 916, 918, 920, 923, 925, 927, 936, 937, 939-941, 948, 949, 971
Eleventh A. D. Section-----	870
Flatbush-----	937, 938
Kings County-----	920
Kings County Committee, People's Lobby to Washington, D. C.-----	966
Ninth Assembly District-----	949
American Peace Crusade:	
American People's Congress and Exposition for Peace-----	955-960
American Peace Mobilization-----	920
American Women for Peace-----	967
American Youth Congress-----	915, 919
American Youth for Democracy-----	854, 914, 915, 919, 920, 937, 949, 950, 972
Americans United for World Organization-----	852-854, 870, 930
Flatbush Chapter-----	923
Boro Hall Civil Rights Congress Committee for Hardison Defense-----	943
Christian Front-----	832, 833
Christian Youth Organization-----	919
Citizens Committee to Defend Representative Government-----	963
Citizens Committee to Reelect Peter V. Cacchione-----	937
Civil Rights Congress-----	907-909, 925, 940-943, 965, 968, 985
American Crusade to End Lynching-----	942
Committee to Organize the Downtown Brooklyn Chapter-----	966
New York-----	944, 945
Flatbush, Brooklyn chapter-----	852, 900, 942, 943
Peoples Freedom Crusade to Washington-----	945
Common Cause, Inc-----	935
Communist Information Bureau-----	901
Communist Party, U. S. A.:	
National Committee-----	865, 902
National Women's Committee-----	957, 977
Alabama-----	904
New York State-----	866, 869, 923, 924, 931-933, 951, 953, 975, 976
Greater New York City:	
Bronx County-----	975
Claremont Club (Tremont Section)-----	915
Riverdale Section-----	918
Tremont Section-----	915
Brooklyn-----	850, 860, 861, 888, 892, 894, 895, 897, 898, 907, 927, 954, 957, 973, 974
Albemarle Club-----	861 904, 905
Bath Beach Section-----	927, 970
Bay Ridge Section-----	913, 919, 927, 970, 971
Bedford-Stuyvesant Section-----	908, 920, 925, 971, 973, 975-977
Bensonhurst Section-----	927, 950, 970, 972
Boro Hall Section-----	834, 889-891, 893, 900, 911-913, 917-920, 925, 927, 933, 935, 936, 938, 942, 943, 944, 957, 966-972
Boro Park Section-----	919, 927, 970, 971
Brighton Beach Section-----	975
Brownsville Section-----	919, 976
Buck Lazar Club-----	969-972
Coney Island Section-----	920
Cortelyou Club-----	856
Crown Heights Section-----	915
East New York Section-----	975
Eleventh A. D. Club-----	846
Farragut Club-----	861, 904, 905
Flatbush Club-----	821, 834-836, 846, 847, 854, 860, 861, 866, 928, 937, 947, 963, 975
Flatbush Section-----	837, 846, 849, 852, 853, 861, 887-889, 895, 896, 904, 905, 923, 925, 930, 937, 940, 941
Fort Greene Section-----	906, 913, 970-972
Franklin Club-----	976

## Communist Party, U. S. A.—Continued

## New York State—Continued

## Greater New York City—Continued

## Brooklyn—Continued

	Page
Frederick Douglass Club.....	971, 972
Freedom Road Club.....	853, 861, 904, 905
Glenwood Club.....	861, 904, 905
Helen Horton Club.....	885, 919, 971
Hinsdale Club, 24th Assembly District.....	917
Industrial Unit Branch 2-C.....	915
Industrial unit 338.....	919
Jay-Smith Club.....	821, 822, 834, 838, 840, 889, 890-892, 897, 900, 907, 914-921, 925-927, 933, 935, 938, 941-944, 966
Jay-Smith Club No. 1.....	892, 893, 897, 912, 915, 919, 921, 927, 935, 936, 938, 941, 956, 971
Jay-Smith Club No. 2.....	892, 897, 912, 919, 920, 927, 936, 938, 941, 944, 971
Joe Stember Youth Club.....	850, 861, 888, 889, 904, 905, 929
Kensington Club.....	973, 977
Kings Highway Branch.....	848
Kings Highway Section.....	917
La Pasionaria Club.....	900, 919, 920, 936, 969, 970
Lincoln Road Club.....	821, 822, 852, 857, 880, 885, 886, 889, 923, 924, 933, 937, 939, 940, 942, 984
Longshore Club.....	918, 968
Ocean Avenue Club.....	889
Orange Street Club.....	922, 969
Park No. 1 Club.....	905
Park No. 2 Club.....	905
Parkside Club.....	821, 822, 835-837, 852, 853, 857, 861, 866, 869, 870, 885, 889, 904, 905, 922
Plaza Club.....	906, 920, 972
Professional Club.....	904, 905
Prospect Park Club.....	861, 888, 889, 904, 905
Red Hook Section.....	920, 972
Riverside Club.....	944, 969, 970, 971
Service Club.....	904, 905
Sheepshead Bay Section.....	915
South Youth Group.....	972
Theodore Dreiser Club.....	861, 888, 904, 905
Thomas Paine Club.....	976
Tubman Club.....	976
Twelfth A. D. Section.....	927, 968
Veterans Committee.....	866, 869, 974
Walt Whitman Club.....	968-972
Waterfront Section.....	913, 925, 927, 957, 970, 975
Williamsburg Section.....	915, 925, 957, 970
Women's Commission.....	957, 973
Woodruff Club.....	889
Kings County Committee.....	894
Kings County Review Commission.....	833, 882, 972, 987
Manhattan:	
Eleventh A. D. Club.....	829
Ninth A. D. Club.....	820, 822, 825, 826, 829, 830, 834, 842, 844, 846, 947, 962, 977
Seventh A. D. Club.....	829
Queens County:	
Far Rockaway Club.....	920
School Commission.....	847
State Committee.....	865, 968, 976, 977
Trade Union Committee.....	931, 977
Veterans Committee.....	931, 976
Pennsylvania:	
Pittsburgh:	
Hill Section.....	921

	Page
Communist Political Association.....	845, 913, 979
New York State.....	894, 898, 899, 976
Brooklyn.....	973, 974
Flatbush Club.....	835, 848, 849, 857, 894, 899, 903
Kings County Council.....	976
School Commission.....	973
Congress of American Women.....	940
Consumers' Union.....	880
Council on African Affairs.....	935
Democrats in Favor of Election of Vincent Longhi to Congress.....	937
Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America, United.....	931, 977
District 4.....	886
Local 475.....	839, 840
Local 1217.....	920
Local 1225.....	976
Flatbush Art Gallery.....	886
Flatbush Consumers Council.....	849, 854, 858
Food, Tobacco, Agricultural and Allied Workers Union of America.....	836
Free and Accepted Masons, F. and A. M.....	940
Furniture Workers Union, Local 140.....	916
Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions.....	933
International Labor Defense.....	914
International Workers Order.....	860, 915, 919, 941, 955, 969
Brownsville (Brooklyn).....	975
Emma Lazarus Division.....	851
Jewish Peoples Fraternal Order.....	940
Puerto Rican Branch.....	936, 969
Jefferson School of Social Science.....	850, 858, 880, 904, 944, 967, 968, 971, 984
Jewish People's Fraternal Order.....	975
Lodge 562.....	851
Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.....	842, 849, 887, 948, 949, 977
Labor Youth League.....	893, 916, 951
Brooklyn Division.....	976
Brooklyn, Paul Robeson Club.....	950
Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, International.....	851
Needle Trades Union, Local 10.....	853
Longshoremen's Association, International:	
Local 968.....	926
Masons, Free and Accepted, F. and A. M. ( <i>See</i> Free and Accepted Masons.)	
Mine Workers of America, United.....	838
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.....	941
National Citizens Political Action Committee.....	933
National Negro Congress.....	963
Neighborhood Committee for the Defense of Peter Harisiades and Anna Taffler.....	966
New York Labor Conference for Peace.....	936
Brooklyn Division.....	951, 953, 954
Office and Professional Workers of America, United.....	838, 918, 920
Local 19.....	908, 920
Parent-Teachers Association.....	941
Peace Information Center.....	969
Philharmonic Choral Society.....	880
Progressive Citizens of America.....	940
New York, Keep America Free Rally.....	983
Flatbush Chapter.....	887
Public Workers Union, United.....	917
Social Science McKelvey White Group.....	916
Southern Conference for Human Welfare.....	849, 901
State, County, and Municipal Workers Union.....	879
Teachers Union of New York.....	854, 855, 941
Local 555.....	916
United Committee for Democratic Rights.....	933, 934
United Committee To Protest Greek Executions.....	841
United States Government:	
Agriculture, Department of.....	848, 859
Treasury, Department of.....	848, 859

	Page
Veterans Committee for the Election of Vincent Longhi to Congress-----	937
Veterans' Committee to Reelect Cacchione-----	857
Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade--- 831, 842, 849, 852, 855, 919, 947, 948	948
Workers School of New York City-----822, 836, 842	842
World Organization for Democratic Youth-----	950
World Peace Committee-----	953
World Peace Appeal-----	953, 954
Young Communist League-----	918
Young Men's Christian Association-----	941
Young Pioneers-----	915
Young Progressives of America-----	915
Young Women's Christian Association-----	941
Young Socialist League-----	850

## PUBLICATIONS

Challenge-----	893
Churchman, The-----	878
Clarity-----	824
Daily Worker----- 899, 900, 902, 903, 906, 907, 912	912
Discussion Bulletin-----	846
Flatbush Community-----	857, 858
German-American-----	969
Land, My Native-----	980
Morning Freiheit-----	866, 935
New Masses-----	904, 921
New York Teacher News-----	854-856
News of the Ninth----- 831, 832, 842	842
Party Voice-----	988











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